THE EXAMINER.

No. 500. SUNDAY, JULY 27, 1817.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. POPE.

No. 485.

A SPEECH TO SOME PURPOSE.

[*CONCLUDED FROM LAST WEEK.*]

FOURTH CHARGE.—*Appointments of Mr. Manners, and of Reynolds the Informer.*

"The like mismanagement displayed itself in the majority of appointments to Consulships, and with respect to two of them in particular. I allude to the appointment of Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Manners, and in alluding to the latter, I can now state, that I know him to be the same person as formerly conducted the *Satirist*. Such appointments, I think, do no credit to any government."

Lord CASTLEREAGH's answer:—

"That person had been recommended to Government as a very fit person to fill the office, which, by the bye, was in itself worth only about 200*l.* a year. The Honourable and Learned Gentleman might, if he chose, trump up any charge he chose against Ministers, but he (Lord C.) could declare he knew nothing of that individual whatever, nor that he was engaged in literary pursuits. He was told by the Under Secretary of State for his own (Lord C.'s) department, that this person was a very desirable one to be employed by Government, and the appointment had of course taken place. He trusted the subject of that appointment would never occupy the attention of the House till a sufficient cause for his removal took place, especially as at present no such subject existed."

His Lordship then proceeded to allude to a case of libel, "*Finnerty* versus *Tipper*," which Mr. BROUGHAM stated twice over to be a different one, from the libel of which he himself had spoken, which was "*Hallet* versus *Manners*;" but the Noble Lord said, that both the libels had been laid before the Benchers, when Mr. MANNERS applied to be called to the Bar, and that the Benchers saw "nothing in them which impeached either his moral character or his conduct as a gentleman;" and therefore admitted him.—It is curious to see how these things go, as the phrase is, by favour. One man shall be convicted of a political libel, and though he wrote what was so called from the most genuine and patriotic motives, shall have the mere conviction itself brought against him as a crime; while another shall be convicted also of a libel, and that too of the most wanton and gross nature, and upon a private individual; and it shall be found to contain nothing impeaching either his moral character or his conduct as a gentleman! And Ministers shall join publicly in the vindication of these persons, and give them consulships,—alleging however all the while, in a most whimsical and satisfactory corollary, that they know *nothing about them!*

Mr. BROUGHAM's reply:—

"It was admitted that Mr. M. had been for some years the Editor of a most infamous publication. He (Mr. B.) was the last man to censure, as unworthy of promotion, those who were guilty of excess in political discussion. Political libels might be blameable, but they belonged to a very different class from private slander. He said nothing against the principles espoused by the work in question, nor even against the discussions of a political nature which it might contain. But he had happened to see two numbers of it some years ago (and friends whose accuracy he could trust, who had seen more of it, assured him all was of a piece), and he ventured to say, that those publications abounded in private defamation of the most base, scandalous, and disgusting nature. He needed only to mention the details of what passed in the recesses of a noble family's bed-chamber, that family being of an opposite side in politics to the party favoured by the work."

We have to add to this statement, that we have seen two or three numbers of the work in question ourselves, and might have seen them all, had we had any taste for scandal truly so called, or sufficient respect for it's talents or character to be anxious what it could say of us; for it scandalized us also in very excellent company, and we understand made a regular practice of so doing,—which, for aught we know, might have given the Editor a lift towards his Promised Land, where he is now going Consul. We should not mention this circumstance with an air of so much indifference, as well as with the indifference itself, did not our friends know that the appearance of such publications, joined to the fact of our seldom or never seeing them, has been matter of great joking with us. Some scandals, it is true, may be calculated to make people look graver than others, but only for the nature that can propagate or delight in them; and we must say, with as much real unaffected ease as we are now forming letters with our pen, that we hold them all in most quiet contempt. We should as soon think of quarrelling with the dust on our boots.—Charge relative to Mr. MANNERS, unanswered.

As to Mr. REYNOLDS, we by no means intend to compare Mr. MANNERS with him. The latter was only the Editor of a scandalous magazine, perhaps is sorry for having written it:—the former is a man of infamous character, in the last sense of the word, and must be looked upon as hampered indeed in his offences, if he has nothing to say to the horrible charges that thicken against him; for an Informer has no pretensions to the dignity of contempt. We shudder to look back upon the summary respecting this man and his proceedings, which was read to the House on the present occasion by Sir FRANCIS BURDETT. Some parts of the statement unfortunately,—the public ones,—we know to be true; others, we hope to GOD, are not:—one of them, if it is, comes in remarkable corroboration of the picture we gave of an Informer the other day. Mr. BROUGHAM, it is to be observed, merely alluded to what has been so often stated respecting REYNOLDS; and Lord CASTLEREAGH answered the allusion with his former insensible—(we prefer this epithet in humanity to any other)—his former insensible observation about his having made amends for rebellion by betraying his friends.

"Thomas Reynolds," (said the statement,) "who has been lately on the Grand Jury, that founds Bills against Watson and others, for High Treason, is the same Reynolds, who, in the year 1798, was an Informer in Ireland, against persons with whom he alleged he was in the habit of conspiring for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of that country. He prosecuted to death several of his alleged fellow conspirators, and, on the

trials, the prisoners called several persons of high consideration and honour, who proved that Reynolds was of most infamous character, and swore he ought not be credited on his oath."

The statement proceeds to say, that one of the witnesses, who was nearly connected with him by marriage, swore he was of so bad and infamous a character, he was not to be believed on oath;—that another of the witnesses swore to his having poisoned his mother;—and that a third, who was a partner with her in a manufacturing concern at Dublin, swore to his having robbed her of property to a considerable amount, and when the Counsel for the prisoners asked him if he could deny the charge, he answered with much levity and indifference, that he *would* not, and that he made use of what he stole to maintain a woman he had in keeping,—making use at the same time of the coarsest word he could find for her. The statement says further, that REYNOLDS, at the time he became "the Agent of the Government of Ireland to foment the rebellion and to endeavour to entrap men to treasonable acts and conversations, was in the most indigent circumstances; but that for the last seventeen years he has been enabled to live in splendour. On the day of the arrest of BOND and many others, on the secret evidence of REYNOLDS, he (REYNOLDS) called and dined with Mrs. BOND, and in the course of the afternoon *endeavoured, as much as possible, to cheer the spirits of herself and her children, and to elicit from her any knowledge which she possessed of her husband's treasonable practices;* previously to his departure from the house *he took up one of Bond's children upon his knee,* assured the child he would *soon deliver his father from prison,* and drank a glass of wine "to the speedy destruction of the infamous Government which tyrannized over England."

We think this beats even the Blood Conspirators.

"Lord Castlereagh," concludes the statement, "was the Chief Minister in Ireland when Reynolds was employed to execute the office of Informer.—Lord Castlereagh now is the Chief Minister in England when this Reynolds is placed as a Spy on the Grand Jury who were summoned to ascertain whether true Bills should be found against Watson and his companions. One witness was sufficient to establish the guilt of a person charged with High Treason in Ireland—so Reynolds did all the business himself."

Charge relative to REYNOLDS, unanswered.

FOURTH CHARGE.—*Tortures in Ireland.*

"I do not mean," (said Mr. BROUGHAM) "to drag the House through a review of all the discussions that took place upon the suspension of the Habeas Corpus. Suffice it to say, this is the first example since the Revolution of a suspension of that law when we were engaged in no foreign war—when we were threatened by no pretender to the Throne—when we were entangled in no rebellion at home; when, in fact, we were exposed to no risk of any kind that would be sufficient to scare a child: yet, in such circumstances, we have abandoned the liberties of every man in the kingdom to the discretion of the Crown. I own, too, I am terrified when I consider into what hands those liberties are surrendered, and under whose authority this new code was to be executed. I cannot forget what scenes took place in Ireland in 1798. The Noble Lord I will suppose to have been ignorant of them, but the atrocities were indubitably committed. Victims by the score were flogged till their bones appeared to the face of day, till their flesh was lacerated in the most shocking manner; they were then rubbed with gunpowder and salt, to add to their excruciating torments, and immediately flogged again without any other intermission. One man brought an action against his oppressor; and were not the facts solemnly recorded in a court of justice, I should shrink from a belief in them. He was actually flogged till his bowels appeared through the wounds, and afterwards, in the hope of dispatching him, flung into a dungeon, where he remained six or seven days without medical attendance. These things were enacted, if not in the presence of the Noble Lord, at least near him. It was not one case merely, but scores of them took place, and for the avowed purpose of obtaining truth through the means of torture. This monstrous system, worse, ten thousand times worse, than the West India system, for there such miseries were inflicted at least as punishments, and not as tortures, was carried on in the vicinity of the Noble Lord. Remembering these things, what security would the people of this country have,—what security is there, that because the Noble Lord is sitting in Downing-street, abuses in Cornwall or Yorkshire may not be committed? There is another instance connected with the period of which I am speaking, that I wish to recal to the recollection of the House: I allude to that horrible case, as it came out upon the trial of Wright v. Judkin Fitzgerald. I am shocked, while I state, that the man defended himself by boasting that he had committed torture in order to obtain the truth. When I find, therefore, the Noble Lord, or at least the Government with which he was connected, permitting such proceedings; when I recollect that the Noble Lord, instead of discountenancing them, or dissevering himself from the Government, supported the prayer of Fitzgerald for a Bill of Indemnity, to protect him against other prosecutions for similar atrocities; and when I reflect, that for his (Fitzgerald's) services he was raised to the rank of a Baronet of the United Kingdoms, I confess my fears of what may happen here are strong indeed. It is true, we may not have the torture in this country; but we have solitary confinement, which is of itself a species of torture dreadful to contemplate."

At last, Lord CASTLEREAGH answers to the old charges brought against him respecting Ireland; and here, at least, we have his Lordship's express condemnation of cruelty.

Lord CASTLEREAGH's 1st answer to the Irish Charge:—

"Never, in truth, did he feel that cruel heart about Ireland which he was charged with feeling. Cruelty, in every species, was detestable, and he lamented to think that in human nature such miscreants should be found as those who could perpetrate any crime for the love of reward. True it was that in Ireland cruelties did exist, and no man lamented them more than he did; but at the same time he must say that the blame lay in those who had excited the rebellion, and not in those who did use every means to check it. The loyal Irish, in truth, were by no means a persecuting, but, on the contrary, a persecuted body. He now contended that it was most ungenerous for the Opposition to bring forward charges after being 20 years silent, and he regretted that such an unmanly and despicable system of policy should be followed."

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT in observation:—

"It was too well understood, that whatever motion the Noble Lord brought forward, he was sure to carry. The Noble Lord now on the Treasury Benches had argued the impolicy of bringing forward such charges after so long silence. But he would ask, in the name of God, was a Minister not to be attacked after 20, or even 40 years of administration?"—*(Hear, hear, hear!)*

Mr. BENNET in observation:—

"The Noble Lord had said much about his own feelings; and for himself he had no doubt that the Noble Lord had a kind heart; but certainly if the Irish Government had not encouraged the horrible practices so often alluded to in the course of the evening, they had winked at them. When he looked, therefore, at the power given by the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, and considered to whom it was given, he was filled with alarm at the recollection of the cruelties that had taken place under a similar superintendence. The Noble Lord had certainly identified himself with some of the worst proceedings in Ireland, by his having

consented to make Mr. Judkin Fitzgerald a Baronet. It was to prostitute the honour, thus to bestow it on a man against whom he could not find terms sufficiently forcible to express his indignation. He instanced several cases to prove the cruelties of which he had been guilty. One was of a schoolmaster who had been flogged because a French note was found on him; although when that note came afterwards to be translated, it turned out to be merely the apology of a French teacher for non-attendance! He had in his hand two depositions to acts of a similar kind. One was the affidavit of John Clare, of Essex-street, Dublin, merchant-tailor, sworn on the 31st October, 1810, and stating, that in the memorable year 1798 a number of floggings, half hangings, &c. took place at the Royal Exchange, immediately adjoining the Castle Gates, at the Lower Castle-yard, at the Barracks, at Essex Bridge, &c. all of which must have been known to the Noble Lord opposite. Among other things the deponent declared that he had seen men pitched and tarred, and hunted through the streets, on whom torture was afterwards inflicted. Another affidavit was from Timothy Brophy, who deposed, that in 1798 he had been offered a commission to give information, but that, having no information to give, he had been tortured. He was stripped naked, tied hands and feet, and whipped to the amount of 100 lashes. His raw back was then rubbed with salt and gunpowder, and the whipping was renewed, until he became insensible."

Lord CASTLEREAGH's 2d answer to the Irish Charge:—

His Lordship here disproved a charge of his having sent a man to Botany Bay on his own authority; and thus proceeded with respect to the tortures:—

"In the other affidavit he was charged with having been *present* at the infliction of torture; but though he could not consider the military punishment of flogging as torture, yet if that punishment had not been inflicted, recourse must have been had to the sword, which would have wasted a great part of the population. He went along with the Hon. Gentleman in considering the use of flogging to extract evidence from men as most wicked and unjustifiable torture. He could only say, that he had never *seen* any man punished in this way in his life, except a soldier in his own militia regiment (*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Not a word, be it observed, of Sir JUDKIN FITZGERALD; nor a word respecting the fact of tortures having been employed, and of the employers having been rewarded and honoured, whatever his Lordship may think of the cruelty of them.

Mr. W. SMITH in conclusion:—

"Mr. W. SMITH could not help expressing satisfaction at hearing the condemnation of torture to extract evidence which had been pronounced by the Noble Lord (Castlereagh). With respect to Sir Thomas Judkin Fitzgerald, who had been alluded to, he knew not whether he was dead or alive, but he held in his hand a pamphlet bearing to be a Report of a Trial of Thomas Judkin Fitzgerald. This Report contained the defence of Fitzgerald by himself, in which he expressed sentiments most opposite to those which the Noble Lord had expressed, for he declared to a Jury, that on a variety of occasions he had ordered to be flogged persons who afterwards proved to be innocent, in a most unmerciful manner, for the purpose of extracting truth. If this was not true, why had it not been contradicted? Why had the pamphlet in question never been prosecuted? Was it not true, that the man who *stated* that he in a Court of Justice had made use of torture in a number of instances, for the sake of obtaining truth—who *exulted and gloried in having done this*, had afterwards *been made a Baronet* by Government? (*Hear, hear, hear!*) If this was true, *how could the Government disconnect themselves from him?*—Would not the fair inference in such a case be, that Government not only wished the infliction of this torture, but that they had rewarded this individual for doing that which they were ashamed to do themselves, but which must always remain a terrible stain in the Administration of the Irish Government?—(*Hear, hear!*)—He had heard such things mentioned as having taken place, on the most respectable authority, authority which he could no more doubt, than he could doubt the horrible nature of them. They ought to be held up as a beacon to all future times. They could not be forgotten any more than the rebellion could be forgotten—and they would be perpetually brought forward till Government took shame to themselves—(*Hear, hear!*)—until they made an apology to the country for having *permitted* or *connived* at these abominable practices. He was at all events glad to hear them disclaimed by the Noble Lord; and they ought to be held out to all future Governments, as a lesson, that these things might never take place again."—(*Hear, hear, hear!*)

Fourth Charge, as far as concerns the general government of Ireland, its connivance at torture, and reward of the torturers, unanswered.

We have scarcely left ourselves room for any further remarks; but we have one at least to make, which we think of importance, and which we shall take another opportunity of dwelling upon. It is this;—that this speech of Mr. BROUGHAM's, which the ministerial hirelings have designated as shamefully personal and undignified, would never have called forth a twentieth part of what it did, had it not been of a nature calculated to provoke that misrepresentation of it. We express our unequivocal and hearty wish to see more of such speeches next Session,—not because we like personality, for abstractedly and privately speaking, we equally avoid and despise it,—but because we like to see bad or weak Ministers treated for what they are, and called properly to account. The time is past, for behaving to them with a ceremony which they do not know how to appreciate, and which, like truly vulgar minds, they will only turn to their own account, growing more assuming and self-idolatrous with every successive forbearance. Their present airs of affected surprise at being a little more roughly handled than usual would be perfectly ridiculous, did they not afford a melancholy proof of the pitch of power as well as vanity to which their lucky emptiness has raised them. But *this*,—*this* is the way to handle them.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, JULY 22.—The Princess Royal of the Brazils remains at Florence; but the Portuguese squadron is expected at Leghorn at the end of the month, to take her Royal Highness on board.

A letter from Carlsbad states, that the King of Prussia lives there in the simplest and most unassuming way. He attends the public rooms, like a common subscriber, every evening, and sometimes joins in the merry dance, always retiring at an early hour, and avoiding every thing like gaming.

The interview between the Duke of Wellington and the King, on Sunday, lasted an hour.

NETHERLANDS.

GHENT, JULY 18.—Europe is under the yoke of England. This is one of those truths which, in the eyes of all men who make use of their intellectual faculties, has all the characters of mathematical demonstration.—This yoke is more real than that of Napoleon, though invested with less humiliating forms. England has escaped its ruin only to revenge itself upon the independence of all nations. It

flag, which explores the world, forms now a-days the great power; and unhappily this power is stronger and more inaccessible than that of armies. One cannot but admire the art with which it has manufactured the net which it has thrown over the globe. The first mesh, as a celebrated publicist has observed, is fixed to Heligoland, and the second to Jersey. From these it commands all the issues of Germany, watches over the Sound, intimidates Sweden and Denmark, and presses on the coasts of Holland and France. In the centre of this line rises the metropolis, between the south and north of Europe. Its eccentric position renders its maritime power the tyrant of the European seas; Gibraltar and Malta secure to it the entrance and the centre of the Mediterranean. From the Ionian islands it superintends the Adriatic and Greece; the Cape of Good Hope opens to it the route to India; by means of Malabar, Ceylon, &c. it compresses Asia; New Holland renders it mistress of the South: at Trinidad it has one foot on the Spanish Continent: at St. Lucia, Jamaica, &c. it watches the Havannah and the Antilles. The occupation of Canada and Newfoundland completes this immense chain, which seems to bind together the two worlds.—The preponderance, as ignominious as it is contrary to the rights of nations, is the object of universal hatred; and it may be asserted, that nineteen twentieths of the inhabitants of Europe would rejoice at the fall of this terrible Colossus.—The last volume of the *Spirit of the Journals* contains a curious letter on the supremacy of England. The author introduces a speaker who has the simplicity to believe that England will succour its allies, the Spaniards and Portuguese. An English navy officer contradicts him with much warmth, and observes, that England has not signed the treaty of the Sacred Alliance.—The speech put into the mouth of this supposed English officer is a direct avowal of the truth of all the charges brought by the Continental pamphleteers against England for the last 20 years: that England went to war to enrich herself with the spoils of other countries, whose colonies she seized; that the Continental system would have ruined her; and that she lavished her gold to find employment at home for those who supported that system; that she has abolished the slave trade to ruin the colonies of all other nations, and reduce them to military stations; that the battle of Waterloo, the glory of which may be contended with her, but of which she has reaped the whole profit, makes her mistress of the universe; that she possesses in every sea impregnable ports, and is able, by her fleets, to blockade all the narrow seas, as the Baltic, the Sound, the Adriatic, the Dardanelles, &c.; that she commands in France and Holland; that the manufactories of the Continent gradually go to ruin; that she has inherited the strength and the projects of Napoleon, and added her own despotism to his tyranny, and has now no longer any occasion to dissemble.—*Ghent Journal.*

SPAIN.

Barcelona, July 8.—Lacy has arrived at Majorca to await his sentence, which will be finally communicated by the King to the Captain-General of the Island. Nothing has transpired as to the fate of his associates.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon, July 1.—(Official Article).—"The Government has received by the ship Novo Paquete, arrived from Rio de Janeiro in 52 days, and which touched at Pernambuco, the agreeable intelligence, that on the 20th of May the royal flag was hoisted on the fortress of Almeida and Recife by the inhabitants of the town, the rebels having been completely routed in the environs of Cape St. Augustin by the troops from Bahia. The town has resumed its obedience to the King, and some of the chiefs who had fled into the interior were pursued with every prospect of [illegible] been taken."

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ASSIZES.

Oxford.—Breach of Promise of Marriage.—Harris v. Loader.—Mr. Wakefield addressed the Court and Jury on the part of the plaintiff, whom he represented to be a young Lady of respectable connections, and of considerable personal beauty and accomplishments. The defendant, who was a man of competent fortune, became acquainted with the plaintiff in the summer of 1815, and in a short time secured her affections. He was received by her family with every possible confidence. His attentions to Miss Harris were of the most assiduous description; and to such a length had the mutual determination to be married gone, that a day was actually fixed for the wedding. The wedding-dress was purchased, and the bride-maid chosen. In defiance of all these preliminaries, however, the defendant, who was between 50 and 60 years of age, abandoned his engagements, deserted the plaintiff, and put it completely out of his power to make her amends, by marrying a younger Lady, a Miss Stone, only 21 years of age.

[Evidence was then called to prove the facts stated by Mr. Wakefield.]

Mr. Jervis addressed the Jury on the part of the defendant. He denied that there had been any thing like a breach of promise at all. If, however, the Jury should be of opinion that there really was any ground for this action, the next question would be the amount of damage which the plaintiff had sustained. Expence upon her part, there had evidently been none incurred, beyond the purchase of a wedding-gown. With regard to any other loss, he could see none; for to a young Lady of 25, he should imagine to be rid of an old suitor of 60, was a matter rather of congratulation than sorrow.

Mr. Justice Park said, that if the Jury believed the testimony on the part of the plaintiff, unopposed as it was by any evidence on the part of the defendant, who had not attempted to throw a single reproach on the conduct of the Lady whose confidence he had abused, they would give such reasonable damages, as they considered sufficient to recompense the plaintiff for the mortification she must necessarily have felt.

The Jury, after a short consultation, found a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, 300*l.*

Coombs v. Turner and others.

The plaintiff is a poor man residing in or near Epwell, but whose settlement is in Gloucestershire. The defendants are the Churchwarden, Overseer, and Constable of Epwell, and two others. The plaintiff had been obliged by the officers of an adjoining parish, to marry a woman who was pregnant by him, and intended to pass his wedding day with his wife's father, who lives at Epwell; but this the parish officers, from a notion (almost too absurd to be credited) that a man gained a settlement where he passed his wedding night, were determined to prevent; and by taking possession of the house, they did so during the day, but in the evening the plaintiff and his wife obtained an entrance through a window, and retired to bed; this being made known to the defendants, they proceeded to the bed-room, and actually dragged him out of bed, handcuffed and carried him, with scarcely any covering, (this was in November) to a public-house, where he passed the night still hand-cuffed, not allowed any refreshment, nor to see his wife. The next morning he was taken before a Justice, and of course discharged.—Verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, 40*l.*

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

W. Bower, Wilmslow, Cheshire, cotton-spinner.
J. Robbeck, Devizes, snuff-manufacturer.
S. Boss, Walkern, Herts, farmer.
D. Smith, Kirkburton, scribbling-miller.

BANKRUPTS.

S. Roberts, Sheffield, spirit-merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Darke and Co. Chancery-lane.
W. Davis, Birmingham, brass-founder. Attornies, Messrs. Egerton and Dickins, Gray's-inn-square.
R. Huntley, Howdon Pans, Northumberland, ship-owner. Attornies, Messrs. Bell and Brodrick, Cheapside.
W. Raven, Hartshorne, Derbyshire, dealer. Attornies, Messrs. Few and Co., Henrietta-street.
B. Allen, Leicester, fancy-trimming-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Taylor, John-street, Bedford-row.

T. Vale, Solihull, Warwickshire, corn-dealer. Attornies, Messrs. Meyrick and Co. Red Lion-square.

G. Coupland, Bristol, dealer. Attorney, Mr. King, Serjeant's-inn.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. Meyer, Howford-buildings, Fenchurch-street, merchant, from July 19 to Aug. 26.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Fennell and W. Benstead, jun. Jewry-street, Aldgate, soap-manufacturers. Attornies, Messrs. Lawis and Page, Princes-street, Bedford-row.

G. Pardow, Coughton, Warwickshire, needle-maker. Attorney, Mr. Bousfield, Bouverie-street.

J. Cole, Plymouth, rope-maker. Attorney, Mr. Makinson, Middle Temple.

G. R. Druitt, Winchester, linen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Emly, Essex-court, Temple.

G. Spall, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, coach-maker. Attornies, Messrs. Blagrave and Walter, Symond's-inn, Chancery-lane.

E. Farrell, of Gosport, Hampshire, linen-draper. Attornies, Messrs. Briggs and Minchin, Essex-street, Strand.

J. Busst, Aston, Warwickshire, gun-barrel-maker. Attorney, Mr. Pouton, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street.

L. C. Beavan, Clifton, Gloucestershire, baker, Attornies, Messrs. Price and Williams, Lincoln's Inn.

A. Sandmark, Mark-lane, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Murray, Sun-court, Cornhill.

W. Hoseason, Jamaica, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Paterson, Old Broad-street.

E. Smith, Derby, bleacher. Attorney, Mr. Barber, Fetter-lane.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Red. ..... 80$\frac{7}{8}\frac{11}{8}\frac{1}{4}$. | 3 per Cent. Cons. .... 80$\frac{3}{8}$ 80 79$\frac{1}{2}$.

We should be happy to insert the Translation from PETRARCH, and on one account do not well know how to decline it; but the fact is, we do not feel ourselves warranted in giving our Readers two Translations of a Composition so long.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JULY 27.

THE secret of the days suspension of the *Constitutionel* has come out. It contained, it seems, the following criticism on a picture:—

"'Amongst the most interesting subjects of M. ISABEY, the face of an infant at full length, holding in its two hands a large garland of roses, is remarkable. This association of the colours of *Spring* and the graces of *infancy*, recalls and assembles ideas of *hope*. In the midst of the garland the artist has represented some pretty *blue flowers*. The *ensemble* of the composition produces the happiest effect. These flowers are named in German—*vergiss mir nicht—forget me not.*'

"The painting has been withdrawn from the Louvre this morning. The Editors and Proprietors have presented memorials to the Council of Ministers, which is assembled to-day—but their hopes of success are but feeble. Their project is said to be, to blend their interests with the *Journal General.*"

The insinuations here are certainly pretty evident; though the *Morning Chronicle* thinks that there ought to have been a more unequivocal allusion to warrant the notice of Government. The *Courier* angrily thinks otherwise; and we must say, that considering what sort of Government it is, the *Courier's* opinion is natural. "We would ask the *Chronicle*," he says with great simplicity, "what it calls a 'direct political allusion?' Has it forgotten the *violet*, which served as the symbol of a party, whose brief success in 1815 *shook France to her centre?* Till experience had taught us how so insignificant a thing could become so *formidable*, from its application, would it not have been deemed absurd to confine a man for wearing a violet in his button-hole? Yet that flower, and afterwards its colour, constituted the outward sign by which a rebel manifested himself *from one end of France to the other.* When trifles are thus proved to be serious, trifles should occupy the attention of a wise Government."—Ah,—*sans doute, M. le Courier, vous avez raison!* When a Government is in so weak a condition, that a flower threatens to overturn it,—that it is ready to

Die of a rose in aromatic pain,—

it is certainly high time for it to take care, that those shocking plants shall not come near it.

By the bye, we must not omit to mention, that since our last the *Courier* has found out—by the help of the Theatre we suppose,—that SHAKSPEARE wrote a play called the *Merchant of Venice*, as well as *Macbeth*; nay, he has even discovered a dramatic piece called *Comus*, and made a quotation from it, finishing all, by way of a masterly variety, with a passage from that "whimsical hodge-podge" of MATHEWS's, the *Mail-Coach*. *Comus*, the *Merchant of Venice*, and the *Mail-Coach!* The old boy's reading is becoming extensive.

But to return to the Parisian Press.—Messrs. COMTE and DUNOYER, the Editors of the *Censeur*, and men of great reputation for talents and integrity, had their publication seized the other day, and found themselves arrested and thrown into prison, by a mandate expressing neither the motive of the arrest, nor the law in virtue of which it has been carried into effect. They have accordingly drawn up a long and vigorous "Denunciation of Arrest and Arbitrary Detention," which, unless the Constitution be openly violated in every letter as well as spirit, must have it's proper effect, and give the Government a striking lesson. But the fact is, the Government is not strong enough in wisdom to act constitutionally, nor in power to continue to act despotically; and between both it's imbecilities, we say, as we have said over and over again, that the moment the Allied forces are withdrawn, it will tumble from it's seat. A baby would overthrow it.—They are now trying to muster up in the Paris papers, as a set-off against the violet business, an account of some *national* things, which Members of the Royal Family have said to M. GIRARD respecting his picture of the *Battle of Austerlitz*; and as a specimen of what they will suffer to be published in the newspapers, take the following passage from a political work, which the *Journal de Paris* extracts "in justification of the most unqualified praises;"—

"For enlightened minds, the love of liberty may supply the place of every species of glory, every recollection; but for the people, who feel more than they see, what can supply the place of this idea: *we have conquered, we may still conquer.*—The question is not to examine if our victories were legitimate, if they were not rather an abuse of our strength than glorious actions. The question is to save France, and political necessity ought to employ all means, even errors, when they are generous, to save the country. We ought, above all things, to dread whatever is calculated to deprive the French of the sentiment of their own esteem: if we lower them, if we lower the national glory, we shall completely destroy all the ties which bind the people to their country. The soldier, whose trophies are calumniated, will no longer find courage in the day of danger; he will return to his country ingratitude for ing atitude."

No:—these boasters of their descent from Louis XIV. and sighers over republican ambition, do not object to wars, and bloodshed, and conquest; they only object to the game's not being in the hands of legitimate Nimrods. The many may cut each other up to all eternity; but that the few should suffer for it,—there is the monstrosity—the vile Jacobinism.

A serious disturbance took place in the theatre at Dieppe last Sunday, originating, as usual, in politics. The first act of the play, says the account, "proceeded without interruption, but a sentence at the latter part of the second act, charging the army with abandoning their Monarch, instantly caused the commencement of the *row*. In vain were endeavours made to restore peace by the impartial persons present. *Loyal* and *seditious* songs and expressions were by turns vociferated from the various parts of the house. Twelve file of men with arms were planted in the gallery. The audience overpowered this small force, and additional assistance was called in. At length a terrible scuffle ensued, in the midst of which several persons were wounded. The officers then hastened to assemble *all* the disposable military force in the town, and shortly the theatre was surrounded, and by this *coup-de-main*, the audience capitulated. All persons suspected of being active in the contest were secured and sent to prison; others were detained *in surveillance*; and, as soon as the town was garrisoned, the innocent persons were allowed to return home. At eleven at night, peace and good order were restored."

Now this is the way all over France, though the journals have not the power to mention it; there are continual fights at the theatres, arrests of individuals, *private* as well as public, squabbles of the military, conspiracies, denouncements, heart-burnings, indignation and contempt; and yet the feeble Dynasty, with it's no-progeny, hopes to outlast it all!—A trial is at this moment going on before the Tribunals, of nine individuals accused of forming part of a conspiracy called the "Conspiracy of the Sleeping Lion."

The revolution at Pernambuco is now said to be entirely suppressed; yet there was fighting to the last, even at the Government House; and the public are not yet in possession of the details. Martinez, the Chief, is stated to have fled into the woods. His object, of course, would be to get to the trimphant *Spanish* Americans, if indeed there are not places of refuge that would open their doors to him nearer home: for in the mean time, a fiercer conspiracy than the one detected at Lisbon is said to have been discovered in Rio Janeiro. "A prevalent rumour was, that his *Majesty* intended soon to visit his European dominions." The rumour will suggest to the reader the old proverb of the frying-pan and the fire.—We recommend to the Lisbon people, when they shall hear the bells ring, an imitation of our famous couplet about Whittington,—

> Turn again, Faithful John,
> Twice run-a-way from throne.

What with Well-beloveds, Faithfuls, and Beloveds, there is no end of these unaccountable conspiracies, and of all sorts of obstructions to government. When Gen Lacy was removed from Barcelona, precautions were taken to conduct him as far as possible *under ground*. He is in Minorca, and it is now said, will be executed,—will be *hung* too, "as" the noble "Portier was."—Well:—the "Beloved" will only have the sooner to answer for it.

Next week we shall have an article on the important Trial and Acquittal, that has just taken place in Scotland.

☞

Brighton, July 24.

Last night the Hero packet, Captain Buckley, arrived from Dieppe in ten hours, with passengers and merchandize. From a passenger who was present at a serious *fracas* at the Theatre on Sunday last, we have obtained the particulars of an extraordinary ebullition of political feelings:—"On Sunday, the 13th of this month, the officers of the military and gend'armes commanded a play to be performed, wherein some allusions were made to the conduct of the citizens about 25 years ago. These reflections upon their loyalty, during the revolutionary period, created much unpleasant animadversion. On Sunday last, the resident inhabitants patronised a comedy (the name of which we have not learned) that contained several pointed remarks on the disposition of the troops to obey the mandate of any monarch or tyrant. As the subject had been previously much canvassed, the Theatre was crowded to excess, and the boxes were chiefly occupied by the military and their friends; the pit and gallery by the inhabitants of the town. The first act proceeded without interruption; but a sentence at the latter part of the second act, charging the army with abandoning their monarch, instantly caused the commencement of the *row*. In vain were endeavours made to restore peace by the impartial persons present. Loyal and seditious songs and expressions were by turns vociferated from the various parts of the house. Twelve file of men with arms were planted in the gallery. The audience overpowered this small force, and additional assistance was called in. At length a terrible scuffle ensued, in the midst of which several persons were wounded. The officers then hastened to assemble all the disposable military force in the town, and shortly the Theatre was surrounded, and by this *coup-de-main* the audience capitulated. All persons suspected of being active in the contest were secured and sent to prison, others were detained in *surveillance*, and as soon as the town was garrisoned, the innocent persons were allowed to return home. At eleven at night peace and good order were restored."

French Papers of Wednesday reached town yesterday. The Prevotal Court of Lyons, on the 17th, "tried twenty rebels, of the Commune of Saint Genis. Laval Francois Oudin, Adjutant-Major on half-pay, and another individual, were condemned to death, four were sentenced to transportation, six to different terms of imprisonment, and the rest were acquitted."

Dispatches from Sir Hudson Lowe at St. Helena were received on Friday morning, which state that Buonaparte is well, and that there is no alteration in his liberty.—*Daily Paper.*

The French Government, it seems, has raised another loan of three millions, and Mr. Baring is one of the Contractors.

The Funds have declined 2 per cent. since Thursday. The Country Bankers, it is said, have sold out largely of late. The depression in the value of land, according to some, is one cause of the fall.—These variations have given rise to much speculation, which still continues.

According to recent letters from India, another Mahratta war is deemed likely.

Some American Papers reached town yesterday. The *Salem Gazette* of June 21, says, that the Royalist army under Morales, 2,000 strong, has been totally defeated by the Independents, at the Missions, 100 miles below Augustura.

General L'Allemand, one of the first of the French General Officers who joined Buonaparte on his return from Elba, lately embarked at Liverpool for America. He was recognized during his stay by more than one person, but his secret was faithfully kept till some weeks after his embarkation.

The Duchess of BERRI is convalescent. The death of her infant is now ascribed to her Highness having been afflicted with the measles during pregnancy.—A French Journalist tells us, that when the royal vaults of St. Denis were opened to admit the body of the infant Princess, thousands of Frenchmen and French women were seen shedding tears over the coffins of LOUIS XVI. and MARIE ANTOINETTE. We have no fault to find with their sensibility; but we can scarcely retain our composure on reading the inference the writer draws, "Thus," he observes, "after all, the French are the most religious, the most honourable, and the most grateful, although the most calumniated, people on earth!" The nationality of this writer almost exceeds that of the honest Swede, who wrote a folio to prove that Sweden was the original Garden of Eden; but admitted that, since the fall, two letters had been added, to mystify it in the eyes of the vulgar.

LOUIS XVIII. when he was informed that the Duchess of BERRI had been delivered of a female child, is said to have exclaimed, with a sigh—"This is what I ought to have expected!"—In a similar mood, JAMES V. of Scotland, when informed of the birth of his only child, the unfortunate Queen MARY, remarked to the by-standers, that the Crown had come into the family with a female; and pathetically added, "It will go out with a woman also." The King, who was then on his death-bed, expired shortly after.

SPEAKERS DINNERS.—Between the old and the new SPEAKER, the Officers of the House of Commons, great and small, have been sadly left in the lurch, for the annual dinners usual at the close of each Session have not been given, and fears are entertained, that this "good old *English* custom" may drop altogether! Now this is a subject of importance, and the NOBLE LORD and the RIGHT HON. GENTLEMAN must expect to hear strange rumblings from so many empty bellies!

POLITICAL LOGIC.—The *Courier* said last week, that Mr. BROUGHAM had made a speech full of "coarse sarcasms and personal calumnies" against Lord CASTLEREAGH. To those who are acquainted with the stile of the *Courier*, this only meant that just the contrary had happened—("So shall my anticipation prevent your discovery")—the coarse sarcasms and personal abuse having been all on the side of Lord CASTLEREAGH, and not on that of Mr. BROUGHAM. When this appears to have been the case, what is the *Courier's* reply? Having failed in fixing the charge of coarseness and scurrility on the *wrong* person, it next finds out that the very same charge which they had flung at Mr. BROUGHAM, but which stuck to Lord CASTLEREAGH, sits there very gracefully, ornamentally, and heroically. That which is a *faux-pas* in the one, is a feat in the other. Good. "To knock down a man who attempts to bully you, is not to become a bully." Who ever said that his Lordship had knocked down any body? No; but it was said and shewn, that he had used coarse language. But, according to the *Courier*, to knock down your antagonist (which his Lordship did not do), is not to call him names (which his Lordship did.) We will grant the *Courier* as much as that. But we cannot allow that if "coarse sarcasms," put into Mr. BROUGHAM's mouth by the *Courier*, are such a disgrace to the person who is supposed to utter them, the same "coarse sarcasms," when they proceed from Lord CASTLEREAGH's, only knock down his adversaries, make them bullies, and his Lordship a hero, and are in fact no "sarcasms" at all, but sound sense and argument. Yet the *Courier* swears to all this with a grave face.—*C'est un mauvais plaisant!*

The equestrian statue that ornamented the enclosure of Berkeley-square, which is one of his Majesty in the habit of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, has been taken down, in order to be repaired and beautified.

Mr. COURTENAY, M.P. it is said, is appointed to succeed Mr. STEEL, as a Master in Chancery.

At the Quarter Sessions for Berkshire, held at Abingdon, on the 16th inst. Lord FOLKESTONE (who is one of the County Justices of the Peace) complained to the Magistrates of his having been on two several occasions refused admission to the County Gaol at Reading, contrary to the provisions of 31st Geo. 3. c. 46. The Magistrates immediately admonished the Gaoler for this offence, but consented to overlook it, in consequence of his submission, and promise not to offend in future.

We understand that all the other persons confined in the Castle of Edinburgh, on charges similar to those preferred against ANDREW MACKINLEY, have been liberated.—*Scotch Paper.*

YOUNG WATSON'S ESCAPE.—The junior WATSON, after his escape from Highgate, returned to London, and received protection from numerous persons, until his final departure for America; and it is a singular fact, that notwithstanding the large reward offered for his apprehension, his retreat was known to eighty individuals, many of whom were in indigent circumstances. One family, in particular, in order to conceal him, dismissed their female servants, and the young ladies themselves performed all the domestic offices and drudgery of the house. He was told by his friends, that unless he had sufficient nerve personally to apply for his passport, and exposed himself to any scrutiny, he could never escape; on which he offered to go instantly to Bow-street, and converse with the officers. He shipped himself on board the Venus, in the name of DUNLEY, disguised as a Quaker: his clothes were stuffed so as to give him a corpulent appearance, and his face was disfigured, by being purposely burnt with caustic, and he was called by his fellow passengers "the proud farmer." He went on board on Tuesday in the river Thames, and remained until the following Saturday at Gravesend, during which time he went to the Alien Office and obtained his passport, and conversed frequently respecting himself. It is also a singular fact, that the ship was thrice boarded and searched by two Magistrates, several Police Officers, and a man who knew the younger WATSON extremely well; but although the young man was very conspicuous on the muster, he escaped detection, and he never for a moment lost his self-possession. The young man, on all occasions, most solemnly asserted, that the pistol which wounded Mr. PLATT went off accidentally in the scuffle, and that he had not the least intention to commit personal injury.—*Chronicle.*

MR. SADLER'S BALLOON.—At one o'clock, on Tuesday, Mr. SADLER, jun. ascended from the Barrack-yard at Portobello, near Dublin, in the view of a prodigious concourse of people. The interval was but a very few minutes from Mr. SADLER's entering the Car until the Balloon was in motion: its ascent was slow and majestic, but unimpeded by any accident whatever. The intrepid Aeronaut seemed familiar with the undertaking, and parted with his friends and the spectators in the best spirits, waving his hat and his flag until he was no longer visible. The course of the Balloon was to the eastward, the wind being westerly: he ascended at 40 minutes past one P. M. and landed about a mile and a half from Holyhead, at seven P. M. having crossed the Irish Channel in five hours and 20 minutes.

About three weeks ago, a young lady of great respectability (21 years of age) bathed at Budleigh Salterton, in the middle of the day, and dried her hair immediately in the sun, which was then darting its meridian rays with unusual fervency; she was shortly afterwards taken ill, and symptoms of insanity were apparent the ensuing day; and she has continued ever since in a most melancholy state of mental derangement.

Two shocks of an earthquake were felt at Barcelona on the 4th instant. The first at four in the morning, and the second a quarter before six, the latter stronger than the other.

Extract of a letter from Paris:—"The evening preceding her death, Madame de STAEL enjoyed the fresh air of the garden, and sunk into a gentle slumber, from which she never awoke. It is a remarkable fact, that apprehending and foreseeing this catastrophe, she never, for some months previous to her dissolution, felt an inclination to sleep, without dread. She intimated a wish, that for three days her corpse might be attended before being for ever inclosed in its coffin, and for three days (in defiance of the distressing circumstances reflection suggests) AGUSTUS DE STAEL did not quit the chamber of his departed mother."

Mr. SHIELD, whose musical works have so often charmed the public, is, it is said, to succeed the late Sir W. PARSONS on the Royal Establishment at St. James's.

CHARACTER OF A MODERN STATESMAN.

A FRAGMENT, WRITTEN IN A BLANK LEAF OF *ARMATA*.

"While the pander to his own ambition and to the undue influence of the prerogative, knitting his loose purposes in the gilded armour of authority, propping his weak arguments on the insolence of unlooked-for success, suspends the Constitution as the play-thing of his will, sports with the liberties of the subject as his puppet, puts men in prison and lets them out again at his leisure, as we put mice in cages and let them out again, gets rid of the laws as so many obsolete incumbrances on the exercise of arbitrary power, affronts the ears of common sense and decency with the *slang* paradoxes of sharpers and pick-pockets, makes a butt of the people and a tool of the Crown, trumps up a pretended rebellion to introduce a real despotism, claims unlimited confidence from Parliament to screen himself from the consequences of the abuse of their confidence—and equally by his strength and weakness, his flexibility and his perseverance, his smile of apathy, or his frown of death, menaces the peace, safety and freedom of an Empire!"

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 290.

ITALIAN-OPERA.

WE are great admirers of MOZART, and have great zeal for the success of the Opera, as of every thing else connected with the genial intellect of the South; and therefore it is with great unwillingness that we are obliged to own how much we have been disappointed at the performance here of *La Clemenza di Tito*.

In the first place, we do not much admire the piece itself as a drama, nor, to confess the truth, with all our love of Italian Literature, are we admirers of the author, METASTASIO. He is, it is true, at the head of Opera writers hitherto; that is to say, all other Opera writers hitherto have been very poor ones; but he is no more to be instanced as a specimen of Italian genius, as many have instanced him, than ADDISON'S *Cato* or SMITH'S *Phædra and Hippolytus* are to be brought forward as specimens of English. TASSO would have scorned his pretensions, and ARIOSTO laughed at them. Poor Dr. BURNEY was taken in, as the phrase is, by his smirking manners, his cheap sentimental common-places, and above all, by the additional reputation he gave to operas and opera music,—which is unquestionable. But this was an easy task for a man who had any poetry in him at all; and from the Doctor's own elaborate and eulogistic account of him, as well as from his dramas and letters themselves, he seems to us to have been a very middling poet, and a cold, servile, over-prudential man. When he first set out in the world, he voluntarily and resolutely turned his back upon poetry, for the purpose, as he confessed of acquiring wealth from the law; and it took all the persuasions of his admirers, the attractions of a celebrated singer who fell in love with him, and above all, the repeated prospects of worldly success, to turn him round again. He went to Rome with this lady, the celebrated ROMANINA; and there, not liking the reception of his *Catone in Utica*, which he wrote to *please the natives*, and being blessed with an offer from Vienna to become Poet Laureat to the Emperor CHARLES the 6th, he turned his back once more upon all the better part of enthusiasm, upon his beautiful native country, upon the very sound of it's language, upon his friends and relations, and upon a generous woman who loved him, and settled for life at the metropolis of the Goths. Here, as he wrote patriotism at Rome to please the countrymen of CATO, he wrote despotism to please the successors of the CÆSARS. He insinuated indeed, it may be said, lessons of justice and clemency to his Imperial Master; and so he did:—his verses also abound with all the cardinal virtues;—but it is insinuated also, that all the said virtues are in possession of his said august and beneficent master, of his august and beneficent mistress the Empress, and of his august and beneficent patrons and patronesses, the Archdukes and Archduchesses, and all the lords and ladies about court. The mean feature that looks through all this veil of affectation is submission to mere authority; and of a description equally mean is that which looks through his life and letters, and which is the one indeed that looks through all the ordinary assumptions of virtue,—a prodigious, calculating regard to his own interest. This, as usual, was the secret of his religion, as well as morality. There is a very curious passage in one of his letters, in which, with the usual unconscious betrayal of selfishness, when any thing excites it to speak from it's real feelings, he lets us know what sort of deity he would be prepared to worship, if necessary. He is anticipating charges against a verse, which he is afraid might be thought a little sceptical. The verse is in his celebrated sonnet (the only good one he wrote) beginning "Sogni e favole io fingo."—"After I had written this sonnet, there came," he says, "into my head, as usual, a scruple; which is, that the 11th verse and the 10th explain a proposition which may perhaps be thought too general, when I say, *Ma quanto temo, o spero, tutto è menzogna:* but whatever I fear or hope is false. I would not have any dry and severe critic say to me, "What! don't you fear hell? don't you hope in God?" For, according to this, the hope in God and the fear of hell are false. It is true, in answer I might say, Most sagacious Sir! I have known from my infancy, as well as you, that God and *hell* are *indisputable truths;* and *if this was not my belief, I should not have recommended myself to God, at the close, in the manner I have done.*"—Here is true Laureat religion:—the getting on at one court, as people get on at another;—the old degrading notion of the DEITY as a dispenser of favours upon application, and a threatener of interminable horrors. Now true virtue and religion we conceive to be as different from all this, as equity and humanity are.

For the rest of this author's character and habits (which as we have gone thus far in sketching, we may as well complete) he was a man of regular life, and of various negative good qualities, prudent, not very contented, courteous and flattering with all who wrote or applied to him to a degree that became ludicrously troublesome to himself; and amassed a good fortune, the bulk of which he left to the family in whose house he had lived for years. ALFIERI, who went to the opposite extreme of savage independence, intended to be introduced to him, when in Germany; but was so disgusted at seeing him one day paying servile court to the Empress in the garden at Schoenbrunn (the place rendered famous by Bonaparte's residence), that he threw up the design in a fit of contempt.

Metastasio's total desertion of his native soil seems to have been revenged upon him by the fogs and stoves of Germany, which Ariosto held in such horror. He was a great sufferer from hypochondria, which, had it fallen upon a more genial disposition, might have taught him perhaps more genial things, for it is a great instructor. Some of the pleasantest traits however in his character appear to have been owing to this severe teacher, which taught him, at any rate, patience. He talks very agreeably about it with his friend Farinelli, who was a sufferer likewise, and who appears, by the bye, to have been a most amiable man; and our pity, good humour, and respect are at once excited by the passages in which he describes himself as undergoing his nervous tremblings, tensions of the head, and "other gentilities;" and his honest confession, that he finds "this same trade of heroism a cursed business."

But to the piece before us and his talents. *La Clemenza di Tito* is one of the least objectionable of Metastasio's productions, and together with *Artaserse* (with which the English public may be reckoned acquainted through the medium of Arne's music) forms part of the five dramas, selected by the editor of the *Parnaso Italiano* as the best and most popular of his works. With allowance for the inferiority of the translation, the public may have a pretty correct notion of the amount of the poet's talent, even from the opera of *Artaxerxes*. His characteristics are some elegance, some interest, some knowledge of the more obvious passions, quick transition of scene, and what is best of all, a certain taste for nature and simplicity singularly spread over a great deal of common-place. We cannot compare him better, generally speaking, than with the upper class of mediocrity in sculpture. There is the same feeble elegance, the same small air of classical propriety, the same sort of decency, suavity, and cold material. And yet his southern temperament comes over him occasionally in strong and natural passion; and this, together with his taste for a natural simplicity, which was new in those times and gave him an immediate reputation, would have made him a great writer, had not all his qualities been rather negative than positive. His passion was soon checked by his want of enthusiasm; and his simplicity was rather a knowledge of the defects on the other side, than a feeling for the beautiful and elemental. He had no poetry whatsoever, particularly so called; that is to say, he saw nothing in nature beyond common eyesight. Nothing can be flatter and less fanciful than his pieces with the most poetical titles, such as *Galatea*, *Endymion*, *Angelica*, *the Feast of the Gods*, and *the Gardens of the Hesperides*. They are dull complimentary court dialogues; and will make the readers of Theocritus, Fletcher, or Spenser, as tired as walking by a brick wall in summer time.

Now this sort of poet is as ill calculated as possible for a musician like Mozart, who was a much greater and more inspired person,—albeit, as still greater lovers of poetry than music, we say it with a grudge. But Metastasio was a pretty musician in poetry; and Mozart was a fine poet in music. The particular difference of their natures was unfortunate for a conjunction. Metastasio's talent was negation, Mozart's enjoyment. The former's very placidity seems rather an absence of the boisterous, than a presence of the serene; whereas Mozart's tendency was to feel all that he said, to be conscious of every idea in the shape and touch of a positive pleasure. He is therefore always at his best in direct enjoyment,—in love, in pastoral pleasure, in joyous anticipation, in deep and actual delight. This was his faculty, his peculiar self; and what he did happily out of the pale of it, was upon the strength of the contrast: but he could not feel mediocrity, which is the Leaden Mean; and the stone-coloured classicalities of *La Clemenza di Tito* must have put him out, almost as much as the dreary decencies of an English tea-party did Madame de Staël, or as a quaker would have neutralized Titan.

The consequence is, in our opinion, that *La Clemenza di Tito* is greatly inferior as a musical composition to *Figaro*, or *Don Giovanni*, or even to *Così fan Tutte*,—which, by the way, we shall be heartily glad to see forthcoming. The lovers of music, small as well as great, have instinctively selected one or two of the airs in it, and harped upon them in forgetfulness of all the rest, particularly the two duets of *Deh prendi* and *Ah perdona*; and these duets, be it observed, are both amatory, and as intense in their way as any thing in the pieces just mentioned.

At the same time, it is not to be concealed that the piece, upon the whole, is not well performed. The daily papers have said so, and we agree with them. The thin benches, and the clattering non-attention in which the coxcombs among the audience think themselves warranted in indulging, are additional proofs of it. Madame Fodor has had a dispute with the *Morning Chronicle* upon her share in the spoliation; and we must say, we think her in the wrong. Madame Fodor took upon herself to transpose an air, though the Managers and her fellow-performers, she says, approved the alteration. But it will be best to give the Lady's own account of the matter. "The Opera," she says, "consisted of three Acts; as played, it consists of two; three-fourths of the *morceaux* are no longer sung by the personages for whom they were intended,—thus *Vitellia* sings what was composed for *Servilia*, and *Sextus* what belonged to *Amico*. In the midst of this disarrangement (which is not my work) I thought I remarked an absurdity which it depended upon me to correct; it is this;—in an air, the words of which are not by Metastasio, and which was placed at the end of the Opera, *Vitellia* expresses her fears, her terror, respecting the fate of her lover *Sextus*, who had been induced by her to conspire against *Titus*; she fancies she already sees her lover led to execution, and she adopts the courageous resolution of going to reveal to the Emperor that she alone is the author of the conspiracy, and that she alone deserves death. These sentiments are noble and beautiful, but they can only interest the spectator in the moment of danger, that is to say, in the middle of the second Act, when the Emperor, informed of the crime of *Sextus*, is on the point of overwhelming him with the weight of his vengeance; whilst, on the contrary, at the end of the Opera, when the clemency of *Titus* is known, and when he has granted the pardon of *Sextus*, tearing the decree of death, and pronouncing the words *Viva l'Amico*, it becomes useless for *Vitellia* to weep over a danger which no longer exists, and to determine to die when the Emperor has willed that all should live."

Now this decision, with all due deference to Madame Fodor, is not decisive. The *Chronicle* says in reply, "Madame F. in the above letter carefully alludes to the *air* only; whereas it is the *preparatory recitative* which contains nearly all the sense of the scene;—it is that in which the agitation of various passions is exhibited. If the air alone had been transposed, then the dramatic effect would have been less injured, though the musical effect would still have suffered. It is true that the poetry of this *air* was not written by Metastasio, but the more important words of the recitative came from his pen, and were placed at the end of the Opera by him; and surely the poet, and such a poet as Metastasio, may be allowed to know which is the proper situation wherein to station the passage upon which rests the *denouement* of the drama! But if Metastasio has proved himself ignorant of his business, he has also Mozart coupled with him in the blunder, for this great composer and able judge of effect, did not venture to change the position of the scene. Madame F. states, and truly, that the drama has been compressed into two acts, whereas the original is in three. This compression was made by Daponte, at the instance of Mozart himself, and is not attributable to any one connected with our Italian stage. But to condense a

dramatic poem is not to change its general structure; the first design, the characters, the interest, remain the same, and the position of all that is not omitted ought necessarily to continue unaltered."—It may be added, that *Vitellia's* resolution to save her lover does not come in so well where Madame Fodor has put it, because in that place it does not agree so well with her character, and because it is pleasanter for the spectator to feel that she has nothing to do, even in anticipation, with influencing the clemency of the Emperor. She is a violent woman, acted upon by extremes; and besides being more in character, it is a greater relief to us, and helps to give her a gracefulness which she is deficient in, to see her repenting of her vehemence and ambition, and setting about doing good, when there is no real need of the change to her lover. The whole effect of it goes where it is wanted.

But this is not the only error of Madame Fodor in the opera. She is certainly liable also to the other charge brought against her by the *Chronicle* of over-loading Mozart with ornament,—of cloathing his exquisite and genial figures with a fritter of drapery. We quarrelled with her on the same account in her performance of Paesiello's *Molinara*; and we were sorry to find that subsequently to public animadversions, of which she was evidently aware, she repeated the fault. Is this obstinacy, or want of taste, or love of vulgar applause, which is also a want of taste? That it cannot be the second, we are persuaded; and therefore we are loth to think it can be the first, because Madame Fodor could afford to dispense with it. We are afraid it is the love of indiscriminate applause; and if so, Madame Fodor is not aware perhaps, that such a passion will always prevent her from claiming a place in the very first rank of singers; for it is their part to form good tastes, not to truckle to bad ones.—We must add, that Madame Fodor dresses herself very ill in this part, making the stoutness of her person too conspicuous, and pulling her hair close and tight at the back of her head like a drummer-boy's without it's queue, till she seems all face. This is very inelegant. If our excellent singer studies Roman costume, as much as she lays claim to a knowledge of Mozart and Metastasio, she may find that it is possible to know all three a little better than to select the worst kind of head-dress, to load simplicity with ornament, and to put the end of a drama in the middle. It might be as well also, while she was about her improvements, if she sang through her lips instead of her teeth, and did not bend her arms and wrists as if she were trundling a mop.

Madame Camporese made a very good *Sesto*, considering the inevitable awkwardness of a female's acting a male. Her singing is very clear and correct, though not mellow enough to satisfy ourselves; but she joined Madame Fodor in her fire-work metamorphosis of *Ah, Perdona*; and we could wish that she would not think it necessary to the dignity of a Roman lover to look so very grave, not to say out of temper, especially towards his mistress. Madame Pasta would do well also to pay a little more attention to her lover, and to look a little *more* grave at the audience. When she sang *Del Prendi* with Begrez (which, by the bye, in spite of the powers of the two former ladies in *Ah Perdona*, pleased us more than any thing in the piece), she threw away all her love upon the spectators, and suffered her hand to be pressed to no purpose by her innamorato, who seemed in vain to try and recall her wandering affections. The duet was very well sung however, some little excrescences excepted; and by Begrez, very well and earnestly acted.

Between the acts of *La Clemenza* there are the usual twirligig extravagances, which they dignify by the name of dancing. Set the letter T on one side, and spin it round, and compare this with the poetical notions, the graceful and modulated variety, of Duenaves; and you have pretended dancing compared with real. We hope the present Opera Managers, among their other improvements (which will have their effect, we doubt not) will sweep away this mechanical no-meaning from the stage. We would as lief see a ventilator set to music.

LYCEUM.

A pleasant little piece has been produced here, called *Bachelor's Wives*. It recounts the detection by their wives of two English Officers, who spend the summer in intrigue at Brussels under pretence of being unmarried. The Officers know each other, but not each other's wives: the latter get into the same hotel, and injuriously contriving to feign an amour with their husbands friends respectively, first torment them with pretended accounts of the faithlessness of their absent wives, and then agree to go with them to a masked ball. When the time arrives, the Ladies change rooms; the signals are given; the Officers come to lead them forth, and accordingly, with great ardour and gratitude, receive the hands of the Ladies, who upon being earnestly requested to unmask, exhibit to each on his knees the face of his own wife. The piece goes off very gaily to the close. The chief performer is Wrench, who has improved, we think, since we saw him last. His humour is not such a mere outline, as it used to be. It is more full and informed, and yet retains all it's pleasant quickness and animal spirit.

A young Lady appeared on Tuesday, for the first time, as *Rosetta*, in the delightful comedy of *Love in a Village*, which, though not to be compared with Allan Ramsay's pastoral, is another proof how much is to be done by a mere taste for nature and simplicity, unaccompanied by any other portion of genius. She is young, and very handsome; of a delicate kind of beauty not common on the stage: and she does not seem to be ignorant that she is so, performing best in the more coquettish parts of the character, particularly in the concluding scene where *Rosetta* coaxes the old Justice to agree to his daughter's marriage. She promises to act indeed better than most female singers; but we cannot so well pronounce what she will do as a singer. Her voice is pleasant, inasmuch as it is feminine, and would perhaps gather additional sweetness with strength; but at present it is thin and feeble; and when she attempts any thing ornamental, she is not always in tune.

Mr. Pearman was the *Young Meadows*, and confirmed us in all we said of him on his first appearance. He got a great deal of applause.

Miss Kelly's acting in the part of the deserted *Madge* was excellently natural and sulky, particularly in the rustic dance, which was performed indeed by all parties with great spirit, and deservedly applauded. A Mr. Wilkinson from the country was a very good *Hodge*, performing with great ease and natural self-possession, and paying no attention to the audience. We shall attend to him another time. *Hodge*, who when he quarrels with a woman instantly has recourse to his fist, and who leaves one girl to follow a prettier, just as a cur drops one bone out of his mouth for another, is on these occasions a rather disgusting sort of person, even on the stage; but the character was perhaps necessary in the candid picture of rusticity, and shews that libertinism is never so brutal and licentious as when accompanied with mere ignorance. As to the pleasanter parts of his and the other characters, it was delightful to see how they were enjoyed by the audience, young and old. The young enjoy them because they are young, and the old because they have been so. The songs, such as "*Hope thou nurse of young desire*,"—"*My heart's my own*,"—"*There was a jolly miller once*,"—&c. bring back to them the days of their childhood and their courtships. We therefore hereby forgive the old gentleman and his daughters, who sat behind us, and occasionally hummed in with the singers; and we also, as critics and town censors, enjoin all fine-bred raid-

dle-aged people, and fierce young fellows, on such occasions and such only, not to turn round and look the said co-singers too disdainfully into silence.

☞

FINE ARTS.

PICTURES PAINTED ON GLASS.

Richness and clearness of colour are among the chief sources of pleasure derived from visible objects. But this colour never of itself raises that pleasure so powerfully, as when it is transparent from light passing through it. Thus the sun as he rises and sets in a serene summer, sometimes shines through the steady clouds with a lucidness, variety, and power, that put to shame every other display of colour whatever:—

"The clouds in thousand liv'ries dight,
Rob'd in flames and amber light."

So in Paintings on Glass, the richness and clearness of the tints immensely surpass all others, owing mainly to the light shining through the glass. The very shadows themselves have a considerable transparency, and appear with a peculiar and lustrous charm, by the advance of strong light into and its existence in the very domain of its natural enemy, shade, yet without diminishing that requisite shade. In this, and in the excess of brightness in the lights, especially in the warm tints, the imagination revels in visual enjoyment. It feels a mental excitation, at once romantic and keen, from the novelty and intenseness of the scene,—a species of poetical temperament and cast of thought. These effects are produced by such first-rate Paintings as Mr. Backler's, both in his day and fire-light exhibition of the following Pictures:—

The Marys at the Sepulchre, from Mr. West.—The transparent light is well adapted to this picture.

An Eruption of Vesuvius, from Pether, is a subject also happily suited to this class of painting. It is a vivid and delicious terror.

King Lear in the Storm, from Mr. West's vigorous and well-known picture, so boldly engraved by Sharp.

The Crucifixion, after Le Brun, a pathetic design, and well subdued to a solemn tone, with the exception of the shewy border.

King John signing Magna Charta.—We cannot here help stating our surprise at the eulogistic allusion to the late Duke of Norfolk, in the descriptive account of this Picture. Crooked may as well be called straight,—assafœtida, honey,—adamant, soft,—or a brute an angel. It is where he speaks of the "Nobleman with whose *sacred* memory this Picture is destined to be associated," and of his Grace's "*many excellencies*." The ingenuity of Mr. Lonsdale has in fact made the most of a disagreeable figure, here painted as Baron Fitzwalter, and from the splendour of the colour, and the important place his Grace takes in the Picture, he has an air of importance which all his estates and his hereditary Earl Marshalship of England could never give him, but in the eyes of the worshippers of a golden calf. After what the catalogue has advanced, we have a right to say this in defence of truth. The Picture is very pleasingly grouped, and well managed, to avoid the leaden lines passing through the heads and hands. The Barons have little of the determined character which conquered from the base, Divine-right Monarch, their own and country's freedom, but the figure of the King is very expressive. He is inly gnawing with rage and reluctance. That of Cardinal Langton, too, is expressive. What a novel Cardinal was he, "to administer to the Barons an oath never to desist from their endeavours until they had obtained a full concession of their liberties." It is what every Englishman ought to do to himself with respect to his representative rights in Parliament. The countenance of Cardinal Pandolfo, the Pope's Legate, as "he examines the Charter with indignation," is a reverse to the open and confident look of Langton. The twin fiends, Legitimacy and Superstition, possess his face with the expression which Milton invests Satan with immediately on his fall:—

"On his crest sat horror plumed."

The air of the Page of Fitzwalter is graceful. Thus there has been sufficient matter for the able copyist to work upon, and Mr. Backler has done full credit to his subject. He has brought the light to a vivid focus and surrounded it by due, subordinate light and shade. He has given all the splendour of his Art, or, in other words, he has so worked his forms and colours on the glass, as to be most friendly to their most lucid display, when seen through the glorious medium of day-light, or the intense hue of fire-light, as in both ways they are now exhibited. It would be an acquisition of pleasure for every man of wealth and taste to have at least one such work in his mansion.

OBJECTIONS TO MR. HAYDON'S EXPLANATION OF THE CARTOON OF ANANIAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—In describing the right hand group in this Cartoon, Mr. Haydon says, "above these two men are *two porters with loads, drawn by mere curiosity*; and Saphira, the wife, is coming in counting the money she intends to give, and what she intends to conceal."

Does Mr. Haydon really think that Raphael knew so little of the character of porters, as to suppose they would carry their loads into a wrong house, merely to indulge their curiosity? Whenever I have seen porters in the street, I have always observed them to be a very steady sort of people, who indeed are remarkable for going straight on about their own business.

Surely Mr. Haydon cannot have read the story in the Bible from which this picture is taken with any attention. If he will read it again, he will find it said, (Acts iv. v. 32, 34, 35.), "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things he possessed was his own: but they had all things common. Neither was there any among that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses, sold them, and brought the prices of the things which were sold, and laid them down at the Apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need." If he will afterwards look at the Picture, he will see at once that these are not common hired porters, drawn by idle curiosity into a house where they had no business, but really respectable and charitable persons, and no doubt good Christians, who are bringing to the Apostles cloathes and money for the relief of their poorer brethren. He will then, I have no doubt, admire the simplicity and plainness with which Raphael has *told his story*; on one side he has placed the rich bringing their donations, and on the other the poor receiving relief; the Apostles stand in the middle. The story indeed could not be told better. One of the persons said to be porters, exhibits a graceful and modest dignity, and appears, by a slight turn of the figure, to be just on the point of laying down a bundle of clothes, folded with great elegance, upon the rail of the platform on which the Apostles stand. A third figure in this *charitable group* is preparing and putting together the money she intends to bestow. How this ever came to be mistaken for Saphira, I cannot imagine, since Ananias, we are told, was dead and "*buried*," and the Scripture expressly says, "it was about the space of *three hours after* when his wife, *not knowing what was done*, came in." How strange it is, that an *Artist* should have made such mistakes as these, and that, with all the simplicity of Raphael's invention, he should be still so little understood!

Pray have the goodness to insert this letter, for the sake of that much injured Genius, and as a warning to young Artists, when they look at historical pictures, to exert their understandings, in order to find out their *meaning*, and the rational principles upon which their materials are *selected* and *combined*: for all the splendid colouring, all the *grand style*, and all the artificial *composition* in the world, will never enable them to produce a work of true grandeur, if they do not learn to conceive it as *an intelligible whole*, and if it have not something like common sense for its foundation.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JUDEX.

P.S. I quite agree with your correspondent, that such works as RAPHAEL'S ought to be explained; and I wish to take this opportunity of hinting, that a most important service might be rendered to the Arts, by collecting into a small volume all the descriptions extant in ancient Authors, of Paintings and other productions of Fine Art. These descriptions should be literally translated,

BANKRUPT SYSTEM.

The following Petition was presented by Earl GROSVENOR, July 11, 1817:—

To the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled—The Humble Petition of JOHN DUFRESNE, late of Leeds, in the County of York, Merchant,—Sheweth,

That your Lordships' Petitioner craves leave to refer to a Petition of his, which was presented on the 1st of May last, to the Honourable the House of Commons, ordered to lie on the table, and be printed, praying that a Bill before the House for increasing the discretionary power of Commissioners of Bankrupt might not pass into a law, but that on the contrary their powers might be diminished, your Petitioner conceiving that he had suffered about five years false imprisonment, through the abuse of such discretionary power.

That for several years your Petitioner carried on trade or business as a merchant in Leeds, in the County of York, and that a Commission of Bankrupt under the Great Seal, bearing date the 18th day of June, 1812, was sued out against him, contrary to the will of one hundred and eleven of your Petitioner's Creditors, by a person in London, who (as will hereafter appear) had no legal claim for debt against your Petitioner,

That at the second Public Meeting under the Commission at Guildhall, no Creditor of your Petitioner attended or offered to prove any debt, except the Petitioning Creditor (so called), who then chose himself sole Assignee.

That at the third Meeting on the 28th July, 1812, your Petitioner surrendered to the Commissioners, and also signified his intention to Petition the Lord High Chancellor for a Supersedeas; your Petitioner was then examined before the Commissioners, and he answered all questions relating to his estate and effects, but the final examination of your Petitioner was adjourned to the 22d day of August, in order that his Petition for a Supersedeas might previously be heard.

That the said Petition came on to be heard on or about the 17th of August, when the Petitioning Creditor, by his Counsel, stated, that he could not be ready, and moved the Lord Chancellor to let the Petition stand over till the next day of Petitions; which motion his Lordship granted.

That at the adjourned Meeting, under the Commission at Guildhall, on the 22d of the same month, your Petitioner's Counsel attended, and stated to the Commissioners, that the decision of the Lord Chancellor had been delayed by the Petitioning Creditor, and that therefore they ought immediately to adjourn until the cause should be heard; your Petitioner then, on these said grounds, declined any further examination until the validity of the Commission should be decided by the Lord Chancellor, and for so doing the Commissioners committed him to the King's Bench Prison, where he now remains; but your Petitioner humbly submits that he had a reasonable objection for declining to be examined on that occasion, and that, as the 16 sec. 30 cap. 5 Geo. II. allows "reasonable objection" to be a sufficient ground for not answering Commissioners of Bankrupt, he further submits, that the said commitment was illegal.

That your Petitioner had various legal and equitable objections to the said Commission; but as the docket on which it was founded had been struck previous to an act of bankruptcy, his legal advisers conceived that therefore at the time of the striking of such docket he could not be considered a Bankrupt, and they relied wholly on that point for obtaining a Supersedeas.

That the said Petition was heard in December, 1812, but as the striking of a docket previous to an act of bankruptcy, was not considered by the Lord Chancellor as sufficient to invalidate a Commission of Bankrupt which might be founded thereon, the Petition was dismissed.

That your Petitioner then resolved on preferring another Petition to the Lord High Chancellor for a Supersedeas, on the grounds of the want of a Petitioning Creditor's debt to sustain the Commission, and the vexatious circumstances under which the Commission was taken out; but from a variety of extraordinary causes your Petitioner, although he used due diligence, was prevented lodging his said Petition until the month of August, 1813.

That the said Petition came on to be heard in its course in August, 1814, but it was dismissed.

That it appearing to your Petitioner that some mistake or misunderstanding, as to the merits of his case, had been the cause of his Petition being thus dismissed, he applied to the Lord Chancellor for a rehearing, and amongst other things stated to his Lordship, that your Petitioner had incontrovertibly established by affidavits that the Petitioning Creditor issued an execution against him six months before he took out the Commission of Bankrupt, by which execution he deprived your Petitioner of property to a greater value than the amount of his whole claim against him; and that, therefore, instead of his being a Creditor of your Petitioner, there was a balance on this account due from him to your Petitioner, at the time when he sued out the Commission of Bankrupt against him.

That in consequence of such representations to the Lord Chancellor by your Petitioner, his Lordship directed that the said Petition should be set down to be re-heard on the next day of Petitions,

That your Petitioner then being desirous of pleading in his own cause, he respectfully signified his wishes on this subject to the Lord Chancellor, and prayed his Lordship that your Petitioner might be brought into Court on the day of the re-hearing of his Petition,

That your Petitioner was personally heard under his said Petition in the month of August, 1815, and the month of April, 1816, and that at the said last hearing the Lord Chancellor decided, that your Petitioner might bring an action against the assignees to try the validity of the Petitioning Creditor's debt.

That your Petitioner finds it to be legally or otherwise impossible, for a person who is under a Commission of Bankrupt to prosecute an action at law, because that by virtue of the said Commission he is deprived of all power over his estate and effects, and consequently of his pecuniary means to conduct legal proceedings.

That in December, 1816, your Petitioner preferred a Petition to the Lord Chancellor, containing the following statements, viz. That your Petitioner finds it to be legally or otherwise impossible for him to prosecute an action against the assignees; and that in addition to the said objection to the bringing of an action, your Petitioner is advised that he has already made out his case both as to law and fact. That at his last hearing under his Petition for a Supersedeas before his Lordship in April, 1816, your Petitioner was also heard respecting his commitment to prison by the Commissioners of Bankrupt, but that his Lordship did not decide upon the validity of the said commitment. The Petition then prays his Lordship, that your Petitioner may be brought up by Habeas Corpus to be personally heard again under his Petition, in order to be discharged from the said commitment, and that his Lordship would be pleased to supersede the said Commission of Bankrupt without a trial at law,

That the said Petition to the Lord Chancellor has not yet been answered, and your Petitioner has not been brought up by Habeas Corpus to be re-heard and discharged from the said commitment, &c.

That by the foregoing combination of circumstances your Petitioner has now been about five years of the best part of his life confined in prison; that from the effects of confinement, and the extraordinary circumstances of your Petitioner's case, his health, and even his life, have been endangered; that his creditors, as well as himself, have been thus kept in painful suspense, and he has not yet been able to obtain any redress whatever.

That your Petitioner's objects in persevering in this contest are to preserve his character, by obtaining an honourable discharge from the aforesaid commitment of the Commissioners, to

obtain some compensation for the injury he has sustained by these illegal proceedings, and some future security for himself and others who may be engaged in fair trade or commerce.

Your Petitioner, therefore, most humbly prays your Lordships, that you will be pleased to take into your serious consideration the circumstances of your Petitioner's aforesaid commitment to prison, and to remove all doubts, if any exist, as to your Petitioner having had "a reasonable objection" to any further examination before the Commissioners of Bankrupt, on the day he was committed by them to prison; and also as to the legal authority for his being discharged for the said commitment according to the 16th and 18th sections, 30 cap. 5 Geo. II. And your Lordship's Petitioner further prays, that you will be pleased to remove any doubts as to the legal authority of the Lord High Chancellor to supersede Commissions of Bankrupt without a trial at law, on full proof being given upon affidavit of the invalidity of such Commissions.

And your Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

JOHN DUPREYE.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, July 21.

WARD AND OTHERS, ASSIGNEES OF DUNKIN, *v.* GOODHART AND OTHERS.

This was an action upon a Policy of Insurance effected by the Phœnix Fire Office, to recover a loss of 3,500*l.* upon a house, the property of the bankrupt, occasioned by fire, in the month of June, 1815.

Mr. GURNEY, Mr. BOLLAND, and Mr. SPANKIE, conducted the case on the part of the plaintiffs.

The following is an outline of it:—The action was brought by the Assignees of Mr. Dunkin, a certificated Bankrupt, who in 1816, carried on the business of a tallow-chandler in Aldersgate-street. His father had died in 1813, leaving him two freehold houses in that street, the value of which was estimated at about 4000*l.*, besides other property of considerable amount. It so happened, that in May, 1815, these houses were destroyed by fire, and the fire-offices readily paid the loss, about 9,000*l.* The bankrupt having rebuilt the premises, resumed his business, having disposed of one of the houses, both of which, including stock in trade, he insured to the amount of nearly 9,000*l.* In the spring of last year the bankrupt married a young lady, and took a trip to Paris with his bride, as well on pleasure as business. Since his father's death, he had been more than twenty times to France upon business, which consisted in dealings in hemp and other articles. In June, 1816, he returned to London with his bride, bringing with him four hundred and fifty-four gold Napoleons, which he took in exchange for Bank of England notes, with a view to avail himself of the exchange. Upon his arrival in England, his wife went to Hampshire. On the night of the 25th of June (the fire having happened on the 26th), he came home about eleven o'clock, and he and his two shopmen were retiring to bed, when they heard the dog in the shop barking most violently, it being alleged that the animal was never (except on one solitary occasion) known to bark before. The bankrupt and his servants became alarmed at this extraordinary circumstance, and searched the premises, but found all safe. The following night the bankrupt was seen, about nine o'clock, to go to his iron safe in his counting-house, where the 454 Napoleons, together with about seventy-five pounds worth of French silver, were deposited. What he did on that occasion was not known, but he immediately left the house, and did not return again till near eleven. He went into the kitchen, called for his candle, and was seen to bed by his man servant, who lit his rush-light as usual. Before he had got to bed the other man servant came home, and the whole family, consisting of the bankrupt, the two men, and two female servants, retired to rest. He himself slept on the second floor, and the servants in the attic story. Between twelve and one o'clock the bankrupt awoke in great perspiration, and under circumstances the most extraordinary. One of the pillows of the bed was held by some unseen hand over his face, whilst a man sat upon his body and kept him from stirring from the bed. He heard voices speaking, and he concluded that there were two or three persons in the room. Whilst he was in this situation, two silk pocket handkerchiefs, which he afterwards found to be his own (having been taken from his coat pocket which lay by the bed side), were introduced under the pillow, and tied round his head, so as to prevent his seeing. The man upon his body kept his position, and presently afterwards he heard a voice say, "I have it"—which the bankrupt supposed to have reference to the finding in his pockets the key of his iron safe. He then heard either one or two persons go up and down stairs two or three times. The man upon his body still held him down upon the bed, and pulling out a sharp instrument, told him not to stir or make a noise under peril of being murdered. He felt the puncture of the instrument on his breast once or twice, and he was assured that if he kept still he should not be hurt. The man hinted that he and his companions had been in the house the night before, but were disturbed. After a short time he was taken from the bed by the robbers, and dragged out to the landing place, where his wrists were tied together with cords, in such a manner that he could not get loose. A rope was then put round his neck, and he was tied to the banisters. He was told by one of the men not to make any noise, under a threat of being murdered, and he was cautioned not to cry out for help until he heard the street-door closed. During this transaction, one of the men said, "D—n it, I took it for a bed—it is alight," alluding, as the Bankrupt supposed, to something that had been set on fire in the lower part of the house. The robbers presently left him, and he immediately cried out for help, gave the alarm of "Murder! Thieves!" &c. In a few minutes the men-servants came down stairs to his assistance, untied his hands, and released him from confinement. He told them what had happened, and one of them went to a window to give the alarm, when he saw smoke breaking out from the cellar window in the lower part of the house. He immediately exclaimed, that the house was on fire. No smell of fire or appearance of smoke was, however, at that time, observable in the house; but the bankrupt immediately gave directions that the maid-servants should be alarmed, which was accordingly done, and the whole family, seized with panic, made their way to the top of the house, and escaped by a forcible entry through the cockloft of the adjoining house (Mr. Cockerton's), and got into the street. It was then raining very hard. The alarm of fire was soon spread through the neighbourhood, and in a very short time the house was in flames. Some person in the street broke the fan-light of the door, entered the shop, and then unlocked the door, which it appeared was double locked. All the other doors of the house (there being three exits from it) were also locked, and there was no appearance of any person having recently left it. The windows were all shut. During this time the bankrupt attempted to get into the house, but was restrained by the watchmen and other persons who had assembled. He appeared in the greatest agitation; was much alarmed, and fainted with fatigue and anxiety. Next morning, as soon as the fire was extinguished, the rubbish was removed from the iron safe, and in it were found some of the bankrupt's books and papers untouched by the fire. The safe was unlocked and the Napoleons gone. There remained, however, the French silver, which was concealed behind one of the account books, and which it was supposed the thieves in their hurry had not seen. In consequence of several reports having gone abroad to the bankrupt's prejudice, he voluntarily tendered his conduct for investigation by the Lord Mayor; and the case was repeatedly inquired into. It appeared, that, at the time of the fire, the bankrupt had property on his premises to the amount of near 5,000*l.* uncovered by the policies; that only the day before he had purchased tallow and other articles.

The bankrupt underwent a very long and strict examination and cross-examination. He demeaned himself with great coolness and propriety.—His testimony was confirmed by his male and female servants, in every particular, as far as they were concerned in the transaction. Several other witnesses were examined, whose testimony went to give the story probability in collateral circumstances.

Mr. SCARLETT addressed the Jury at considerable length for the defendants, and with him were Mr. MARRYAT and Mr. F. POLLOCK.

The following witnesses were examined with a view to shake the credit of the bankrupt's testimony, and that of other witnesses examined for the plaintiff:—

Thomas Robinson, a fireman, of the London Assurance Office, found some plate on the third staircase of Mr. Cockerton's house on the morning of the 27th of June, in turning the rubbish over which fell from the ruin of the house. It was found in different places upon the third floor of Cockerton's house. It was found between six and seven in the morning.—There had been several firemen backwards and forwards during the morning over the premises, before the plate was found. The firemen were working with the branch of the engine.—Cockerton's roof had fallen in about an hour before the plate was found.

Mr. GURNEY admitted that the plate found was the plate which had been locked up in Dunkin's bed-room.

Samuel Larkins, who lived in Cockerton's house, remembered hearing Dunkin's voice on the morning of the fire. Heard him say, "Cockerton, Cockerton, fire, fire, get up or you will all be burnt." Dunkin was then on the top of Cockerton's roof. Witness went into his room to get some clothes, and heard a voice cry, "open the trap door." At this time there was nothing to be seen but smoke, and no flames coming from Dunkin's house.

Mr. DAWES, the Solicitor, said that he had heard Mr. Dunkin describe the manner in which his hands were tied. Witness's son had shewn him the way to do the same thing. It might be done in such a manner, by a person, so as to prevent the appearance of having been done by third persons.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH said it was a matter of notoriety that such tricks had been performed in a variety of instances, by persons who resorted to them for the purpose of effecting robberies.

Henry Harrison was passing the end of Aldersgate-street on the morning of the fire; went to the spot; was there 20 minutes before Mr. Dunkin came. There were 20 or 30 people there, and they were knocking at the door, crying "Fire! fire!" Witness got into the house by the fan light, and opened the door, having previously borrowed the watchman's lanthorn. The street door was double locked, with the key inside. Dunkin then came up and said, "O, good God! I don't know what I have done to be served so." On the Monday following, witness was present when Dunkin was examined before Alderman Cox, and he asked witness if he was the young man who got in at the fan-light, and upon answering in the affirmative, he said, "Good God! were you not afraid of the dog?" Witness examined all the doors of the house, and they appeared to be fast.

John Mackey proved, that after the fire broke out, all the doors and windows of Dunkin's house appeared to be shut and fastened. Great difficulty was found in opening the door which had been entered.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH summed up the case.

The Jury retired for about half an hour, and found their verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, 3,026*l.* deducting salvage.—The trial lasted eleven hours.

SECONDARIES-OFFICE, COLEMAN-STREET.

WILLIAMS, ESQ. v. FINCH, ESQ.

Mr. Serjeant BEST stated, that this was an action by which the plaintiff sought to recover compensation for a most violent assault committed upon him by the defendant, and in which the latter had suffered judgment to go by default. The plaintiff was a gentleman formerly in the profession of the law. He had the misfortune some years since to become acquainted with the defendant, who is an officer in the Life Guards, and in consequence the defendant was introduced to his present wife, a lady of most amiable manners. The defendant, at the time of his marriage, was destitute of fortune, but, by his matrimonial connection, became possessed of a property of very considerable magnitude, (8 or 9000*l.*) Notwithstanding this however, very shortly after his marriage, such was his treatment of his wife that she was obliged to fly from his society, and seek protection beneath the roof of her mother, at Bristol, whither the defendant thought proper to follow, and there, in the house of her parent, conducted himself in a manner which would prove most disgraceful to any man, but more especially to one bearing the name of a British Officer. The plaintiff was an intimate friend of Mrs. Brown, the mother of Mrs. Finch, and was appointed one of the trustees of the marriage settlement of the latter. As soon as the conduct of the defendant was discovered, he was sent for to Bristol. He was asked what would be the most prudent course to adopt, and he advised that Mrs. Finch should be removed from her husband, and placed under the protection of her uncle, Mr. Whitmore, a Member of Parliament. This conduct constituted one of the grounds upon which the defendant subsequently attempted to justify his malignity. Immediately upon the return of Mr. Williams to town, he was assailed with such threats by defendant as rendered it necessary for him to appeal to the laws for protection. On the 9th of June, as Mr. Williams was walking along the Strand, in company with Major Brown, the defendant, without utterin a syllable, rushed upon him, and with the butt-end of a horse-whip, made a violent blow at his head. He then repeated the blow, which was aimed at his face, but which was fortunately warded off by the plaintiff, who caught it upon his hand. Major Brown now interfered, and knowing something of the defendant, exclaimed, "Finch, for God's sake, what are you doing?" The defendant immediately refrained from further violence, but vociferated—"There, damn you—I have given you a good licking—you scoundrel, take me again before Sir N. Conant, and the rest of his Officers at Bow-street, and be d—d to them."—After this he offered to strip and fight Mr. Williams.

Evidence having proved the case, the Jury, after a short deliberation, found a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, 300*l.*

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY, EDINBURGH.

The Court proceeded to advise the information in the case of *Jean Campbell* alias *Bruce*, a deaf and dumb woman, accused of drowning her child. The Judges delivered their opinions at considerable length.

Lord HERMAND was of opinion, that the panel was not a fit object for trial. She was deaf and dumb from her infancy—had had no instruction whatever—was unable to give information to her Counsel—to communicate the names of her exculpatory witnesses, if she had any, and was unable to plead to the indictment in any way whatever, except by certain signs, which he considered in point of law to be no pleading whatever.

Lords JUSTICE CLERK, GILLIES, PITMILLY, and RESTON, were of a different opinion. From the evidence of Mr. Kinniburgh and Mr. Wood, they were of opinion that the panel was *doli capax quoad*, the actual crime she was charged with. It was true that this was a new case in Scotland, but in England a case of a similar nature had occurred. One Jones was arraigned at the Old Bailey, in 1773, for stealing five guineas in a dwelling-house; he appeared to be deaf and dumb: a Jury was impanelled to try whether he wilfully stood mute, or from the visitation of God:—they returned a verdict, "from the visitation of God;" and it having appeared that the prisoner had been in the use of holding conversations, by means of signs, with a woman of the name of Fanny Lazarus, she was sworn an interpreter. He was tried, convicted, and transported. In this case the panel had described to Mr. Kinniburgh most minutely the manner in which the accident happened to her child, and from the indignant way in which she rejected the assertion that she had thrown it over the bridge, it was evident that she was sensible to murder it was a crime.—It was also observed by Lord RESTON that it would be an act of justice towards the panel herself to bring her to trial; because if the Court found that she was a perfect nonentity, and could not be tried for a crime, it followed as a natural consequence, that the unhappy woman would be confined for life; whereas, if she was brought to trial, and it turned out that the accident happened in the way she described it, she would immediately be set at liberty.

The Court then found the panel a fit object for trial, and she was ordered to be sent to Glasgow accordingly.

Saturday, July 19.

This day the Court proceeded to the trial of *Andrew Mackinley*, charged, under the Act of the 52d of the King, for administering unlawful oaths.

A Jury was then impanelled, and the Declarations of the prisoner read, which made out nothing, except his acknowledging having attended secret meetings.

The first witness called was *John Campbell*, prisoner in the Castle of Edinburgh, who being sworn, and the usual question put, if he had received any reward or promise of reward for giving his testimony—answered, that he had. Hereupon the Lord Advocate craved that the witness's words should be taken down. A long examination then took place. The witness expressed his wish not to enter into any description of the ill-usage, threats, and stratagems practised on him by the Sheriff of Lanarkshire, to induce him to become a witness (*informer*). He stated that Mr. Salmon, the Procurator Fiscal, after finding intreaties fruitless, had recourse to stratagem, and taking the witness's part, began to rail against the prisoners as villains who had betrayed him, and to assure him that it was only his regard for the witness that made him wish him to become evidence, and that he had six men who would swear that he had taken the oath, and witness was as sure to be hanged as he was born! Witness assured him he had not taken the oath.—Mr. Drummond, the Deputy Advocate, shortly after visited witness, and promised to write to Lord Sidmouth and get him into the Excise.—This offer witness declined. After much discourse, an agreement would have been entered into, by which the witness and his wife would have gone to Prussia with means for their conveyance, but Sir Wm. Rae, (the Sheriff) told witness, that if he was to sign any such agreement, he would not be answerable for it for a good deal. Mr. Drummond, however, argued for it, but Sir William persisted in refusing to sign any such agreement; and the wit-

ness at length consented to rely on them "as Gentlemen," without its being put down on paper, they they would do for him what he expected!—Witness, after this, wrote for clothes and money. He got some shoes, but was told he could not have money till the first trial was over.

The Court rejected this witness, as it appeared he came forward to give his evidence under the impression that he was to receive a certain remuneration.

Four witnesses, all prisoners in the Castle of Edinburgh, were then called: they all admitted that they had attended different meetings at Glasgow, but that no oath of secresy was administered. The meetings were to consider of commencing reform societies; and as it had been printed in the London *Courier*, that upon the meeting of Parliament the Habeas Corpus Act would be suspended, and that as a very small crime might subject a person to its operation, it was necessary to provide against any member hurting his neighbour by any unguarded expression. An obligation or promise of secresy by a shake of the hand was agreed upon, and confidence then took place, that no information from any other society should be used, to hurt any individual of these societies. All denied that any oath, such as stated in the indictment, was administered, and one witness, Finlayson, declared that he would not have recollected a word of the alleged oath, had he not seen it in a newspaper.

The Court would not allow this witness to be further examined, as his information was derived merely from newspaper report.

After examining these witnesses, the LORD ADVOCATE rose and addressed the Court, stating, that in consequence of the *disappointment* he had experienced in the turn which the evidence he had adduced had taken, he found he could not receive the verdict which his former impressions had led him to expect. He would not take up time in going farther into a discussion which could neither be beneficial to the country or to the panel; he therefore left it to the Jury to return a verdict of—*Not Proven* or *Not Guilty*.

The Jury, after consulting a few minutes, returned a verdict of *Not Proven*.

The LORD JUSTICE CLERK then addressed the prisoner nearly as follows:—"Andrew Muckinley, you have been duly tried upon the most patient investigation, and the public prosecutor has not, upon this occasion, produced evidence to find you guilty of the charges in the indictment. The evidence has been unsatisfactory; but, looking to your own declaration, and the minute given by your Counsel, the verdict of not proven is a proper verdict. *This verdict leaves, however, a mark upon your character, which nothing but a life of rectitude will wipe off.* You have had a full, fair, and impartial trial. It must shew you the safeguard of a British Jury, and must leave upon your mind a conviction of the security and happiness of the people of this country—it shows that the laws extend to their protection. You now return to society; have no more secret meetings, either by bonds, oaths, or engagements. Abstain from such practices, and no such charge can come against you again. Hold out for the future to your fellow-countrymen, that the laws afford protection to the persons of the subjects, and charge them to hand down our happy Constitution unimpaired to the latest posterity. By your future life, justify the verdict of the Jury. If you have been misled by wicked men, be determined to live for the future in the paths of honesty, sobriety, and virtue."

The Prisoner addressed the Court as follows:—"My Lords, I am not in a capacity to stand, from my weak state of body, to return you my thanks in a long speech, but I thank your Lordships, and the Gentlemen of the Jury, for your unwearied attention in this long and arduous case; also the Lord Advocate, for his kindness to me during the time of my imprisonment, in admitting my friends to visit me without restraint. To my Counsel my feelings will not allow me to express myself."—The prisoner then bowed to the Court and retired.

The trial lasted from nine in the morning till ten at night.

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

Tuesday morning a Gentleman, high in an official situation, who came to the Office in his own carriage, was charged before R. BIRNIE, Esq. the Sitting Magistrate, with cruelty and ill-treatment to his wife, to whom it appeared he had been married 15 years. Latterly he had changed his conduct, from being affectionate to violently assaulting and ill-treating her, which was proved by several friends and neighbours.—The MAGISTRATE observed, that he must call upon the defendant to find sureties to answer the charge preferred against him in another place, at which he expressed himself surprised and indignant.—The Magistrate informed him he certainly should protect the Lady, his wife; he must therefore find bail, which he refused to comply with: he was of course detained in custody.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.

On Thursday, *Colonel Dashwood*, *Captain Berkeley*, and *Mr. Cripps*, were charged with making a disturbance in St. James-street, on Wednesday night, about twelve o'clock. They had an unfortunate female with them, in a state of intoxication, whose person was exposed in a most indecent and unmanly way. The watchmen interfered, and succeeded in capturing the offenders. The Magistrate (Mr. FARRANT) fined them 1s. each, saying, that if any reporters were present, he expected the names of the parties would be concealed! But why, Mr. Farrant?

On Friday, *Rhoda Perrot* was charged with carrying away a child aged six months; the son of —— Hampden, a private in the Life Guards. The child's mother deposed, that on the 16th of April, 1816, she was standing with the child in front of the Horse Guards, when the prisoner took particular notice of the child, and asked her where she lived, adding, that she would call next day and see her, as she felt interested with her. Witness gave her direction; and on the morning of the 17th she called, and the next morning she came again, and said she had to call at the Spotted Dog, in the Strand, for a bundle. She then said, "Let me take out the child for an airing;" and witness consented. After several hours had elapsed, witness got uneasy, and enquiry was made at the Spotted Dog, where it was ascertained she had taken away her bundle; and not the least trace could be discovered of the prisoner's route. All hopes of ever recovering the child had subsided; when, about a week ago, the prosecutor was drinking with a private of the 10th hussars, to whom he related the story. This man, fortunately, recollected one of the men in his own regiment having a child brought to him by the prisoner, and as the names agreed, he expressed his suspicion she might be the same: accordingly persons were dispatched to Hampton, who took her into custody. The prisoner, in her defence, said, Mrs. Hampden's child died some time ago. It appeared that an improper intercourse had taken place between her and a soldier in the 10th regiment, from whom she had been separated a sufficient time to have been delivered of a child of the age of the one she had stolen, and on whom she wished to impose it as his.—She was remanded.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

On Monday night the daughter of —— Leith, Esq. of Arnold-place, Newington, in the absence of the nurse, drank from the spout of a tea-pot a considerable quantity of hot water, by which she was so badly scalded that she lived but a few hours.

On Tuesday evening a boy, about five years old, son to Mr. Mathews, of Edgeware-road, was suffered to play in the fields near his father's house, until his mother, thinking it was time he should retire to rest, sent the servant for him. To the terror of the latter, however, he was not to be found. Immediate search was set on foot; and at night a young man named Field returned to Mr. Mathews with the poor child, almost in a state of nudity. The account which the little fellow gave was, that he was enticed away by two women, who gave him some cherries, and on getting him near Edgeware, at the close of day, stripped him of his cloaths, and left him in that state on the highway.

On Thursday week, in the morning, about two o'clock, Mrs. Inglefield, of Milton-street, Liverpool, was awakened by a ruffian, in the act of forcing his hand into her mouth, and who endeavoured to smother her. She struggled with him, and screamed murder; he then struck at her with a knife, with which he wounded her head, and attempted to cut her throat; but, fortunately, he made but a slight gash; for, in the scuffle, the blade became loose, and fell out of the handle! Mrs. Inglefield's daughter rushed out of bed to the assistance of her mother, and actually got hold of the villain, but he tore himself away and escaped. The knife-blade and handle were found on the floor, and in the yard a shabby oil-cased hat and handkerchief, with some halfpence in it, were found. A quantity of silver, &c. was taken away, and it is probable that the robbery would have been more extensive, if the intended murder had been accomplished. An examination into the circumstances took place in the course of the day at the Town Hall. Mrs. Inglefield's description of the horrid business was most affecting; and every means will be used to bring the miscreant to justice.

An Inquest was held on Friday, on the body of *Mary*, daughter of Mr. Kemble, of Manor-row, Walworth, who was accidentally burnt to death; she was eight years of age. Mrs. Oliver stated, that on Tuesday morning she heard the screaming of a child, and saw the deceased enveloped in flames: she tore the burning garments off as fast as she could, but before the flames were extinguished, her whole body was scorched in a most shocking manner. She told witness that her mother had been gone out of the house about five minutes, to convey a letter to the Post-office, and left an infant in the cradle; but having left the coffee-pot on the fire, with the poker under it, the deceased, while lifting off the pot, threw down the poker, and it set her clothes on fire.—Verdict—Accidentally burned to death.

An Inquest was held on Friday evening, on the body of —— *Fisher*, who it was supposed was starved to death.—T. Roberts stated, that he had lodged at 23, Exeter-street; the deceased had lodged there more than 12 months. On Wednesday the landlady asked him if he had seen Fisher, for she had knocked at his door, and received no answer. At her request he forced the door, and found the deceased lying on the floor, partly dressed. He had been unwell some months.—J. Foley corroborated the above, and added, that the deceased had some tea given to him every morning. He did not know that he ever took any thing else. He had lately complained that he was wasted to a skeleton. He was a well-informed man, and never asked for assistance.—Mrs. Burton stated that the deceased had lodged four years in her house. She gave him the leavings of her tea in the morning; he found bread himself. She did not know whether the deceased ever ate dinner or supper, and whether he died from want of food or disease, she could not say.—Coroner—"It is evident this man died by the visitation of God."—Juryman—"I am satisfied he died for want of the necessaries of life."—Another Juryman—"I am of the same opinion, and dissent from the Coroner."—There were 12 Jurymen gave the following verdict, and it was finally recorded—Died by the Visitation of God.

An Inquest was held on Thursday on the body of *Miss Eliz. Harley*, a lady of fortune, 23 years of age, who hung herself. The deceased occupied a large house, No. 6, Tavistock-place, in which she had two female servants, but since the death of her guardian, she became melancholy. On Wednesday night she retired to bed about ten o'clock; and not rising at her usual time, one of the servants went to call her, but receiving no answer, she became alarmed. She then informed a female friend of the deceased, who knocked and called several times; but receiving no answer, they sent for Mr. France, an undertaker, who broke open the door, and the deceased was found on the floor, quite dead, with part of a skipping-rope tied round her neck, and the corresponding part tied to the bed tester, from which it was supposed the deceased had been suspended, but which must have broken.—Verdict, died by her own act, not being sane at the time.

A melancholy circumstance lately took place at Caldcoats, near Carlisle. Two Ladies named Gibson were passing Mr. Birch's sizing-house, when two lads irritated the watch dog, which stood on the public foot-path barking in a furious manner. The Ladies wished to pass; but the lads threatened, that unless they gave them sixpence they would set it at them, which so frightened one of them, that she dropped down and expired immediately.

At the Kent Quarter Sessions, *G. Fenson* was indicted for unlawfully having in his possession certain naval stores, found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of 30*l*.—There were several other cases respecting unlawful possession of King's stores. For offences of that nature, *W. Ware*, of Woolwich, and *T. Hanton*, of Deptford, were each sentenced to six month's imprisonment; and *W. Hall*, of Woolwich, *J. Ware*, of ditto, and *J. Forbes*, to one year's imprisonment.—*H. Wells* pleaded guilty on a similar charge, and was fined 30*l*.

The Exeter Paper states the following remarkable circumstance:—Wednesday as the Exeter Mail was ascending Dunkerton-hill, near this city, a young man, an outside passenger, desired the coachman to set him down, as he perceived his father (a respectable farmer in appearance) walking up the hill. His wish being complied with, upon his accosting his parent, the latter called to a man who was trimming a hedge, and immediately secured his son, whom he charged with the commission of a robbery in the lower part of Somerset. It appears that search had been made for the young man the day before at the father's house, who was so indignant at the crime, as actually to deliver up his own son to justice!

Wednesday afternoon, at four o'clock, as the Earl of Portarlington was passing along Long-acre, two boys came up to him, and said they had just seen a man pick his pocket. His Lordship turned round, and was just in time to see his handkerchief drop from a fellow's hand, who immediately ran away. The Noble Earl pursued the fellow, and never lost sight of him until he was stopped by Clements, the St. Giles's Constable, who recognized him as an old offender, and lodged him in the watch-house. In the evening he was brought up to Bow-street, when he was fully committed for trial.

BIRTH.

On the 24th inst. Mrs. G. S. Ford, of Mecklenburgh-square, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On Monday last, at St. Bride's Church, Mr. Samuel Moseley, to Miss Ann Fell, eldest daughter of Mr. Joseph Fell, late of Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell.

On Wednesday, the 9th instant, at Mary-le-bone Church, Thomas Nelson Hirst, Esq. of St. Petersburgh, to Anne, eldest daughter of P. Turnerelli, Esq. the Sculptor.

On the 21st, at Kensington, Stanley Pipe Wolferstan, Esq. to Elizabeth Jervis, eldest daughter of Swynfen Jervis, Esq. of Kensington.

July 21, Oliver Hargreave, Esq. of Lincoln's-Inn, Barrister-at-Law, to Miss Elizabeth Ratray, of Ashford, Kent.

July 22, Major-Gen. Sir John Buchan, to Laura, only daughter of Colonel Mark Wilks, Isle of Man.

July 23, Capt. Frederick Colvile, of the 3d Foot Guards, to Mary, third daughter of Jas. Hen. Leigh, Esq. M.P. of Adlestrop, Gloucestershire.

July 26, Mr. Hutchinson, of Clement's-lane, to Ann, daughter of the late John Clark, Esq. of Camberwell.

DEATHS.

July 13, at Eglington Castle, in his 7th year, the Right Hon. Hugh Lord Montgomerie.

July 18, at Seaford, Lady Prescott, relict of Sir George Wm. Prescott, Bart.

On the 22d inst. at Samuel Rolleston's, Esq. Cowes, the Rev. Mathew Rolleston, M.A. Fellow of University College, Oxford, aged 30.

Lately, at Charlton Rings, in his 64th year, Peter Aplin, Esq. Admiral of the White.

Lately, at Hamburgh, at an advanced age, Professor Ebeling, a celebrated Geographer.

Lately, the eminent Mineralogist Werner: his name, says a letter from Dresden, was known from the iron mines of Siberia to those of gold in Peru.

Lately, at Bologna, a Lady of the name of Clotilda Tambroni, whose knowledge of Greek was such, that the Papal Government had placed her upon the establishment of the University there.

On Monday the 1st inst. at Wrestlingworth, Bedfordshire, in the 27th year of his age, the Rev. Robert Manning, B.D. minister of Wrestlingworth with Eyeworth and Dunton, and only six months since married to the surviving daughter of the late Matthew Rugely, Esq. of Potton, in that county. The deceased met his lamented death in the following melancholy manner:—On the preceding evening, after discharging the arduous duties of his several cures, he felt induced to take an airing on horseback to Biggleswade; on his return, rather late, moving swiftly along, he was met by a person who suddenly and with a rushing noise opened an umbrella, which as suddenly caused the frighted horse to dart aside, unseating his rider, who with a dreadful concussion pitched upon and thereby mortally fractured his scull. The horse (a favourite) immediately stood motionless, as if to deplore the sad catastrophe; while the innocent cause of it ran to the assistance of the deceased, whom he found bleeding profusely, and distinctly uttering these words, "I am extremely uncomfortable, I wish I was at home." He spoke no more, but placidly laid upon the ground until surgical aid and a post-chaise were procured from Potton, and in a few hours after reaching home imperceptibly vanished from his numerous friends and the world, leaving behind him a regret and esteem which will not so abruptly pass.—*Stamford News.*

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